



DON'T QUOTE ME

Trump blames 'double negative' for furor over Putin meeting

President Donald Trump speaks to members of the media as he meets with members of Congress in the Cabinet Room of the White House, Tuesday, July 17, 2018, in Washington.

Associated Press
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Trump backs down under fire, 'clarifies' on Russia meddling

By ZEKE MILLER and LISA MASCARO

WASHINGTON (AP) — Blistered by bipartisan condemnation of his embrace of a longtime U.S. enemy, President Donald Trump strained Tuesday to "clarify" his public undermining of American intelligence agencies, saying he simply misspoke when he said he saw no reason to believe Russia had interfered in the 2016 U.S. election.

Rebuked as never before by his own party, including a stern pushback from usually reserved Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, the U.S. president sought to end 27 hours of recrimination by delivering a rare admission of error.

"The sentence should have been, 'I don't see any reason why I wouldn't, or why it wouldn't be Russia' instead of 'why it would,'" Trump said of the comments he had made standing alongside Vladimir Putin on Monday's summit stage in Helsinki.

That didn't explain why Trump, who had tweeted a half-dozen times and sat for two television interviews since the Putin news conference, waited so long to correct his remarks. And the scripted cleanup pertained only to the least defensible of his comments.

He didn't reverse other statements in which he gave clear credence to Putin's "extremely strong and powerful" denial of Russian involvement, raised doubts about his own intelligence agencies' conclusions and advanced discredited conspiracy theories about election meddling.

He also accused past American leaders, rather than Russia's destabilizing actions in the U.S. and



Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and Majority Whip John Cornyn, R-Texas, left, speaks to the media on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, July 17, 2018.

Associated Press

around the world, for the souring of relations between two countries. And he did not address his other problematic statements during a week-long Europe tour, in which he sent the NATO alliance into emergency session and assailed British Prime Minister Theresa May as she was hosting him for an official visit.

"I accept our intelligence community's conclusion that Russia's meddling in the 2016 election took place," Trump conceded Tuesday. But even then he made a point of adding, "It could be other people also. A lot of people out there. There was no collusion at all."

Moments earlier, McConnell felt the need to reassure America's allies in Europe with whom Trump clashed during his frenzied trip last week.

With no if's or but's, the GOP leader declared, "The European countries are our

friends, and the Russians are not."

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer said Trump was trying to "squirm away" from his comments alongside Putin. "It's 24 hours too late and in the wrong place," he said.

Trump still maintained that his meetings with NATO allies went well and his summit with Putin "even better." But this reference to diplomatic success carried an edge, too, since the barrage of criticism and insults he delivered in Brussels and London was hardly well-received.

On Capitol Hill, top Republican leaders said they were open to slapping fresh sanctions on Russia, but they showed no sign of acting any time soon.

"Let's be very clear, just so everybody knows: Russia did meddle with our elections," said House Speaker Paul Ryan, another steady

Trump political ally. "What we intend to do is make sure they don't get away with it again and also to help our allies."

In the Senate, McConnell said "there's a possibility" his chamber would act, pointing to a bipartisan measure from Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., and Sen. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md., to deter future Russian interference by ordering sanctions against countries if they do.

Both parties called for Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and other officials to appear before Congress and tell exactly what happened during Trump's two-hour private session with Putin. Pompeo is to publicly testify before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on July 25.

Schumer also urged the Senate to take up legislation to boost security for U.S. elections and to revive a measure passed earlier by

the Judiciary Committee to protect Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian election interference.

But minority Democrats have few tools to enforce anything.

In the House, Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi staged a vote Tuesday in support of the intelligence committee's findings that Russia interfered in the 2016 election. But even that largely symbolic measure was blocked party-line by Republicans.

Senators had floated a similar idea earlier, and Republican Jeff Flake of Arizona said he was preparing a bipartisan bill. But The No. 2 Republican, Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, said sanctions may be preferable to a nonbinding resolution that amounts to "just some messaging exercise."

Trump's meeting with Putin in Helsinki was his first time sharing the international stage with a man he has described as an important U.S. competitor — but whom he has also praised a strong, effective leader. Standing alongside Putin, Trump steered clear of any confrontation with the Russian, going so far as to question American intelligence and last week's federal indictments that accused 12 Russians of hacking into Democratic email accounts to hurt Hillary Clinton in 2016.

"I have great confidence in my intelligence people, but I will tell you that President Putin was extremely strong and powerful in his denial today.

"He just said it's not Russia. I will say this: I don't see any reason why it would be," Trump said. □

Senate GOP, Dems fight over Kavanaugh confirmation documents

By ALAN FRAM

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Senate battle was brewing Tuesday over Democrats' requests for documents from Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh's career, with his time in President George W. Bush's White House emerging as a potential focal point of that fight.

No. 2 Senate Republican leader John Cornyn told reporters about "rumblings" that Democrats want "every scrap of paper" from Kavanaugh's career.

"We're not going to sit idly by and allow our Democratic colleagues to draw this out by making unreasonable document demands which would delay this hearing until well past the election," the Texan told reporters.

GOP leaders have talked about hoping to confirm Kavanaugh by the Oct. 1 start of the next Supreme Court term. Most Democrats are expected to oppose the nomination of the 53-year-old conservative.

Cornyn said his "suggestion" was that Democrats should concentrate on Kavanaugh's dozen years as judge on the powerful U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, a post he assumed in 2006. He said Democrats have issued "no requests" for records from his three-year stint as staff secretary in Bush's White House, when Cornyn said Kavanaugh was "basically managing the paper flow for the administration."

But Democrats seem to have a particular interest in that period of Kavanaugh's life.

Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J.,



Senate Majority Whip John Cornyn, R-Texas, center, joined by, from left, Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., and Sen. John Thune, R-S.D., tell reporters they are aiming to confirm Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh in time for the opening of the high court's term in October, during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, July 17, 2018.

Associated Press

a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said Democrats were not making unreasonable requests for documents.

"We should have access to all of his writings. And I think that's not an unusual request," he said in a brief interview. He said papers from Kavanaugh's time as Bush's staff secretary were "an essential element to this."

A senior Democratic Senate aide said Democrats want as many relevant documents as possible, especially from his time as Bush's staff secretary. The aide says Democratic senators haven't agreed to meet with Kavanaugh because they want to understand what documents the White House and Republicans will produce and how they'll

do it.

The aide spoke on condition of anonymity to describe private discussions.

As White House staff secretary, Kavanaugh saw virtually all of the tens of thousands of documents that reached Bush's desk. Processing those documents could take a long time.

President Donald Trump nominated Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court vacancy on July 9.

Kavanaugh worked under independent counsel Kenneth Starr during the investigation of then-President Bill Clinton in the late 1990s. He was also involved in the Bush 2000 presidential campaign's effort to end that year's disputed Florida recount. □



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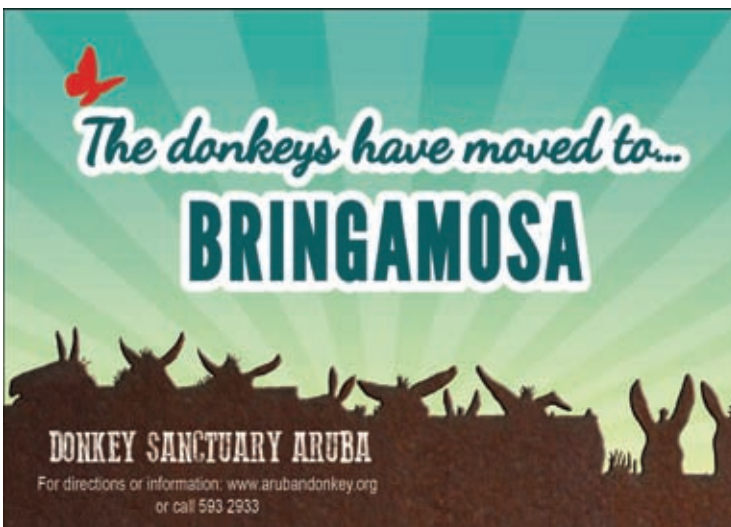
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By a 1-vote margin, city leaders OK bid for GOP convention

By TOM FOREMAN Jr., Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — A divided North Carolina city council narrowly approved a bid Monday to host the 2020 Republican National Convention, a decision that followed nearly two hours of comments pro and con from local residents and council members.

After a public discussion period with more than 100 speakers and nearly one hour of debate among themselves, the Charlotte City Council voted 6-5 in favor of hosting the event. Charlotte, North Carolina's largest city, has been considered a front-runner for the convention. Published reports showed a number of cities thought to be up for the event didn't actually submit bids.

Mayor Vi Lyles, Charlotte's first black female mayor, had led efforts to secure the convention, despite critics who decried the attempt because of President Donald Trump's statements denigrating minorities, Muslims, women and the LGBTQ population.

"I think that this is probably one of the most difficult decisions and the most tested for us as a council," Lyles said. "But I welcome that test, because if we're not tested, we're not doing the right things."

Lyles emphasized the vote to approve the bid isn't an



Charlotte Mayor Vi Lyles speaks to a packed chamber during a public forum before the Charlotte City Council votes whether to host the 2020 Republican National Convention, in Charlotte, N.C., Monday, July 16, 2018.

Associated Press

endorsement of Trump.

"I believe that hosting the Republican convention is about what opportunities we can make of it after this very, very difficult time of deliberation," she said.

City councilman Braxton Winston, who debated fellow councilman Tariq Bokhari over the issue, said the outcome wasn't unexpected, but he added that the city now must make sure "the people of Charlotte are centered in this."

"That the priorities that we have collectively come up with, around economic inequities, upward mobility,

housing and transportation infrastructure don't get lost in this process," Winston said.

Some opponents of the bid carried green-and-white signs that read "No RNC In CLT. #defendcharlotte". Among those with a sign was Mandy Deese, 39, a Charlotte paralegal.

"I consider the 6-5 vote a win because that lets Donald Trump know that this city does not want him here," Deese said. "We didn't vote for him. We protest against him every time we have a chance. And that just shows that these people

that care about their communities have said, 'Nope, we agree with the public.'" Supporters carried white sheets of paper with "2020 RNC Supporter" printed on black letters. One man stood outside the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center holding a big white flag with the red, white and blue GOP logo on it. Many pro-convention speakers represented hotels and the service industry, among them Dan Hooks, who said the council should look past political rhetoric and see what's good for the city.

Hooks said to reject the RNC would be to reverse the good done by hosting the Democratic National Convention in 2012.

Other businesspeople said hosting the convention would mean jobs and paychecks for residents who would work extra hours during the week of the convention. Some mentioned that the city would be showcased to the nation by hosting the convention. Brenda Jackson-Little said the RNC would be "a tremendous economic boon for the region."

Former city councilman Kenny Smith urged support for the bid.

"A 'no' vote only hurts the city you have sworn to represent," Smith said. "Cast aside politics."

If Charlotte hosts the convention, the GOP will be visiting a community where it hasn't fared well against Democrats in the last two presidential elections. President Barack Obama carried Mecklenburg County in 2012 with 60 percent of the vote. Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton won the county over Trump in 2016 with 62 percent of the vote. In 2012, Charlotte hosted the convention that launched Obama's second run for The White House. North Carolina voted for the GOP in 2012 and 2016 after Obama won the state in 2008. □

Lights go out during Trump statement at the White House

By KEN THOMAS

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump wanted to make an important point. And then the lights went out.

Trump was saying Tuesday that he has "full faith" in the U.S. intelligence agencies in

the aftermath of his Helsinki news conference when the lights in the White House Cabinet Room dimmed and briefly went out, leaving the room mostly in darkness.

"Whoops, they just turned off the lights. That must

be the intelligence agencies," the president joked to members of his Cabinet, lawmakers and the assembled media.

As the lights were quickly switched on, Trump asked if everyone was OK. "That was strange. But that's OK,"

he said, returning to his statement.

Trump was trying to make clear after his meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin that he fully supports the U.S. intelligence community and its finding that Russia interfered in the 2016

elections.

His remarks came during a meeting with Vice President Mike Pence, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and several members of Congress, including Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady, R-Texas. □

Day care owner gets probation for trying to kill toddler

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A Minneapolis day care owner was sentenced Monday to 10 years of probation for trying to kill a toddler in her home by hanging him.

Nataliia Karia, 43, received her punishment in Hennepin County court after pleading guilty to attempted murder and third-degree assault earlier. She also pleaded guilty to criminal vehicular operation for hitting a pedestrian, a bicyclist and another driver as she fled from her home in a minivan in November 2016.

Karia also must follow court-ordered mental health treatment and will be on electronic home monitoring for at least two months, the Star Tribune reported. She will live with her adult son but cannot have unsupervised contact with her daughters or other minors.

According to the criminal complaint, a father was dropping off his son at Karia's home when Karia led him toward the basement, where he saw the toddler hanging from a noose. He released the child and fled with him. The 16-month-old boy survived.

Judge Jay Quam agreed with the assessment by doctors that Karia was "a low risk" to reoffend. He called her actions "the perfect storm of factors unlikely to ever be repeated."

Defense attorney Brockton Hunter expressed relief on behalf of Karia.

"We came in here with our hearts in our throats," Hunter said. He said Karia, who has spent 20 months in jail since the incident and will get credit for her time already served, will leave jail no later than Tuesday.

Karia, who arrived in the United States from Ukraine in 2006, promised to follow probation and said in court she was glad no one died.

Prosecutor Christina Warren pushed for prison time. Warren raised doubts that Karia could be properly supervised outside of prison and receive the care she needs to restore her mental health.



Nataliia Karia, center, with her lawyers Brock Hunter, right, and Ryan Else, reacts during her sentencing hearing in Hennepin County District Court in Minneapolis, Monday, July 16, 2018.

Associated Press

In a court filing, Warren wrote that instead of being the person most able and willing to protect the boy







from harm, Karia "left him hanging by a noose around his neck in her basement." The defense argued for

probation, pointing out that Karia already has served time in jail and lost her child care career. □

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Report touts progress, but riot survivor blames officials

By RANDALL CHASE

Associated Press

HOCKESSIN, Del. (AP) —

Patricia May had a feeling of dread when she reported to work at Delaware's maximum-security prison last year. For months, she'd worried about her safety after being assigned to C Building at James T. Vaughn Correctional Center in Smyrna.

As she walked to her office Feb. 1, 2017, the veteran Department of Correction counselor voiced her concerns to a colleague.

"I thought I was going to get killed in there," May told The Associated Press in her first interview since last year's deadly prison riot.

"It was common knowledge that the riot was going to come about," she added. "We just didn't know when." A few minutes later, inmates staged an uprising in which officer Sgt. Steven Floyd was killed, two others were beaten and tormented, and May was held hostage for almost 20 hours. May, who retired in March, blames prison leadership: "They knew it was going to happen. They did nothing. When they put me in that building, they knew they were putting me in a dangerous situation."

Prison officials have not responded to the details of May's interview. But on Tuesday, they released a report touting progress in prison reform efforts.

The report updates work



Former Department of Correction counselor Patricia May displays examples of paintings by Delaware prison inmates that decorate her home in Hockessin, Del., Monday, July 16, 2018.

Associated Press

on 41 recommendations in an independent review ordered by Democratic Gov. John Carney after the uprising. The Department of Correction has implemented and "measurably addressed" 40 recommendations, according to the report by Claire DeMatteis, a lawyer hired by Carney to oversee reform efforts. The remaining recommendation, she wrote, is the one to reduce mandatory overtime.

The state spent nearly \$31 million on overtime in the fiscal year that ended June 30, which the report describes as "an essential public safety expense."

Part of the reason: Delaware's prisons have 227 correctional-officer va-

cancies, including 98 at Vaughn. A staffing analysis recommends an additional 137 positions at the Smyrna prison. But enhanced recruiting efforts could take another 18 to 24 months to yield results, the report says, and administrators are seeking interim solutions.

The report also says officers continue to express concerns about understaffing, overtime, improving communications, and rebuilding trust.

Overall, according to the report, Carney and lawmakers have committed \$62 million to the department since the riot.

Former counselor May was included in a \$7.55 million settlement of a lawsuit filed on behalf of Floyd's rela-

tives and six correctional staffers. In settling, state officials didn't acknowledge any wrongdoing.

But the review found that prison administrators dismissed warnings of trouble, including Floyd's plea to move some inmates to another building for security. That was indicative of an overcrowded, understaffed facility plagued by mismanagement, poor communication, a culture of negativity, and adversarial relationships among staff, administrators and inmates, investigators found.

"I'm just ticked off that nobody talked to me," said May, who did arrange a meeting with Carney's chief legal counsel before Carney announced the hiring of DeMatteis. In an email Tuesday, DeMatteis said, "I greatly respect Ms. May's service and the trauma she experienced."

In describing the riot to the AP on Friday, May, 68, said it broke out shortly after she received clearance from Floyd for an inmate to visit her office. Roughly 30 minutes into the meeting, another prisoner burst in, holding a sharp weapon.

"He said, 'Ms. May, I don't want to hurt you, but if you don't do everything I tell you, I'm going to have to stab you,'" she said. She was tied up, a hood placed over her head. She could hear the violence outside her door. Inmates ransacked the building, set fires and barricaded doors. As she was led to a cell, May was able to look down through the bottom of the hood. Claustrophobic, she had warned an inmate that if he tied the hood around her neck, she would "freak out."

"When I walked out of the office, the floor was cov-

ered with blood. ... I didn't know whose blood it was," she said.

An inmate later held a phone or radio to her head, ordering her to explain "how serious this is."

"There's blood everywhere," May said numbly, unable to think of a better way to explain.

In an effort to calm May, a Christian, inmates brought her a Bible. She clutched it to her chest. Too nervous to eat, she declined food.

An inmate brought her a radio, but there was no reception. Instead, the inmate sang to her.

Eventually, May was allowed to remove her hood. Three inmates had joined her in the cell and vowed to protect her. They shared their life stories; she told them how she relied on her faith and recounted Bible stories.

An hour later, shouts rang through the hallways.

"They're coming at us with a backhoe!" inmates hollered.

May and the inmates closed their cell door. The inmates shouted to responders to let them know May was with them, and told them where to find the electrical panel to unlock the door.

May was worried that "my guys would get hurt ... they cared about a counselor they hardly even knew."

May, who holds a degree in criminology and previously worked as a probation and parole officer before becoming a counselor, says inmates need better conditions and that officials "are antiquated in our thinking about treatment."

"They have to take these reforms seriously," she said. "If you take all their hope away, what do they have left?" □

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San Francisco to consider tax on companies to help homeless

By JANIE HAR

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — San Francisco voters will decide in November whether to tax large businesses to pay for homeless and housing services, an issue that set off a battle in another West Coast city struggling with income inequality.

The city elections department verified Monday that supporters had collected enough signatures to get the measure on the ballot. It would raise about \$300 million a year — doubling what San Francisco spends on homelessness — for more shelter beds and housing for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming so. The money would come from an average half-percent tax increase on companies' revenue above \$50 million each year.

Homelessness is a major problem in San Francisco, as well as other cities on the West Coast with growing numbers of high-paying tech jobs that price lower-income residents out of a shrinking housing supply. San Francisco's new mayor, London Breed, vowed to clear the streets of its tent camps within a year of taking office.

"I think the city is really ready for this," said Christin Evans, a San Francisco small-business owner and one of three petitioners on the measure. "We have a lot of momentum behind us, and more than a majority of the voting population is renters. We're polling very well."

Seattle leaders last month repealed a tax on large employers that was meant to fund homelessness services after Amazon pushed back.

But south of San Francisco, Mountain View's City Council got a measure on the

November ballot asking voters to authorize a tax on Google and other companies with employees in the Silicon Valley city.

It's unclear which companies in San Francisco would be affected and how hard by the additional tax on gross receipts. Jim Lazarus, senior vice president of public policy for the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, estimates up to 1,000 businesses generate more than \$50 million a year. The companies could include Twitter, which declined to comment Monday. Other companies that could be affected, such as Uber, pharmaceutical distributor McKesson Corp., Google, Apple and Amazon did not respond to requests for comment.

Other businesses that could be affected include department stores, supermarkets, law firms and clothing makers such as Levi Strauss & Co., Lazarus said. The chamber will likely oppose the measure.

Marc Benioff, founder and chief executive of cloud-computing company Salesforce, has urged others in the tech community to help address the city's problems with homelessness.

The city's largest tech employer said in a statement that it has given more than \$4 million to the cause and that it is "evaluating the potential ballot measure to carefully assess its merits in addressing this important issue."

San Francisco voters last month also approved an increase in the gross receipts tax on commercial buildings and warehouses to fund universal child care. The upcoming ballot measure is backed by a coalition that includes homelessness and gay rights



In this Feb. 23, 2016 file photo, a man stands outside his tent on Division Street in San Francisco. Associated Press

groups. Up to half of the money raised would go toward permanent housing, from rental subsidies to new housing. Up to a quarter would go toward mental health services.

Jason McDaniel, a political science professor at San Francisco State University, says it is likely to pass unless political leaders band together to block it.

"I suspect that local com-

panies don't have the same kind of relationship to the political establishment as they do in Seattle," he said. "There's no Amazon here. It's not like a company town." □

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EU, US relations sinking further after divisive Trump tour

By **RAF CASERT**

BRUSSELS (AP) — After a week of the worst barrage of insults yet from U.S. President Donald Trump, the European Union is looking westward toward the White House less and less.

Making it worse, after barking at his European allies, Trump spent Monday co-zying up to EU adversary Vladimir Putin in an extraordinary chummy summit with the Russian leader in Helsinki.

Never mind. In an age when Trump has made political optics all-important, on Tuesday, the EU struck back. Key EU leaders were in the far east in China and Japan looking for the trust, friendship and cooperation they could no longer get from a century-old ally.

Trump's embrace of Putin and the EU's Asian outreach highlights the yawning rift, widening more by the day, in a trans-Atlantic unity that has been the bedrock of international politics for the better part of a century, as countless graves of U.S. soldiers buried in European soil bear witness to.

Trump's abrasiveness and America First insistence had been a given even before he became president. Europe's increasing resignation to let go of the cherished link to the White House is much more recent. After last week's brutal NATO summit where Trump derided Europeans as free-loaders, EU chief Donald Tusk spoke on Tuesday of "the increasing darkness of international politics."

"This Helsinki summit is above all another wake-up



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, European Council President Donald Tusk smile at press conference in Tokyo Tuesday, July 17, 2018.

Associated Press

call for Europe," said Manfred Weber, the German leader of the EPP center-right group in the European Parliament, the legislature's biggest.

"We Europeans must take our fate in our own hands." It was a startling sentiment coming from someone who hails from the same German Christian Democrat stock as Angela Merkel, Helmut Kohl and Konrad Adenauer, staunch supporters of the trans-Atlantic link over the past three-quarters century.

There have been other signs of the growing European detachment from the White House, especially after Trump pulled out of the global climate agreement and the Iran nuclear deal the EU brokered.

"With friends like that, who needs enemies?" Tusk asked two months ago.

Soon, Trump had also piled on economic punishment with punitive tariffs on European steel and aluminum. Then came the NATO summit. Already viewed with apprehension, reality turned out to be worse.

First, Trump called Germany, the powerhouse of the European Union, "captive" to Russia. Then he suggested that Britain should "sue" the EU over Brexit terms. Finally, he finished off by calling the 28-nation bloc a trade "foe."

"For Trump, the categories of friend, ally, partner, opponent, enemy don't exist. For him there is only his own ego," said the head of the German parliament's foreign affairs committee, Norbert Roettgen.

So little wonder the EU has turned for friends elsewhere — and found one Tuesday in Japan, where

the bloc said it put in place "the largest bilateral trade deal ever."

Up to two years ago, that was supposed to be the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, or TTIP, trade deal between the EU and the United States. But Trump quickly let it be known that such an international agreement would not happen on his watch.

"This is an act of enormous strategic importance for the rules-based international order, at a time when some are questioning this order," Tusk said at a joint news conference in Tokyo with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

"We are sending a clear message that we stand together against protectionism."

Despite all, there remained hope that on the most criti-

cal of geopolitical security issues, Trump would remain true to American ideals. Instead, he unleashed unprecedented criticism at last week's NATO summit.

Fully extracting itself from the United States, though, is a daunting challenge for Europe.

Militarily, with the exceptions of France and Britain, the European allies have lived under the nuclear umbrella of the United States since World War II. Defense cooperation outside of U.S.-dominated NATO is only now taking off and the blocked Brexit negotiations make such a prospect fraught with uncertainty.

That military dimension, and the bond between Europe and the United States, has a special resonance in nations like Poland and the Baltic states, which had long been under the thumb of Moscow before the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Hence, Monday's Helsinki summit was seen with apprehension that Trump might make dramatic concessions to Putin and leave parts of Europe with too little protection. In Poland, the 1945 Yalta Conference is seen as a symbol of political treason because, without Poland's participation and against Poland's will, it put the country under Soviet control for decades, until 1989. On Tuesday, there was some relief on that score. Krzysztof Szczerski, the foreign policy adviser to Polish President Andrzej Duda, said that all those who "prophesied that the Trump-Putin meeting will lead to a second Yalta were very wrong." □



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Displaced Syrians march close to Israel; airstrike kills 10

By SARAH EL DEEB

BEIRUT (AP) — Dozens of Syrians displaced by a government offensive marched toward the Israel-occupied Golan Heights in a rare peaceful protest on Tuesday, shortly after a suspected Russian airstrike hit a school serving as a shelter in southwestern Syria, killing at least 10 people, according to activists.

The marchers waved white flags at Israeli soldiers as they walked toward the frontier in the Golan Heights, demanding protection from the relentless airstrikes, before they turned back.

The brief protest came as Syrian and Russian airstrikes have intensified in the Quneitra countryside and the southwestern Daraa province.

Tuesday's airstrike hit in the village of Ain el-Tineh in Quneitra province, about 7 ki-



A Syrian soldier stands guard at his post overlooking the Damascus-Aleppo highway in Rastan, Homs province, Syria, Tuesday, July 17, 2018.

Associated Press

lometers (4 miles) from the Israeli frontier, according to a Syrian search and rescue team.

Khaled Solh of the Syrian Civil Defense group, also known as the White Helmets, said the building was

being used to shelter families that were forced to flee their homes amid the fighting in southwestern Syria.

He blamed the airstrike on Russia, Syrian President Bashar Assad's top ally.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which monitors Syria's civil war through a network of activists on the ground, put the death toll from the airstrike at 14, including four women and five children.

The Observatory said 180 civilians have been killed in fighting in the region since June 19.

Syrian government troops, backed by Russian forces, have stepped up their attacks on the remaining opposition pockets in the region, launching over 1,500 shells and airstrikes in the last two days alone, according to the Observatory. In the border march, Moaz al-Assaad, a photographer in Quneitra, said by the time he made it to the frontier with Israel, the protesters had dispersed. □



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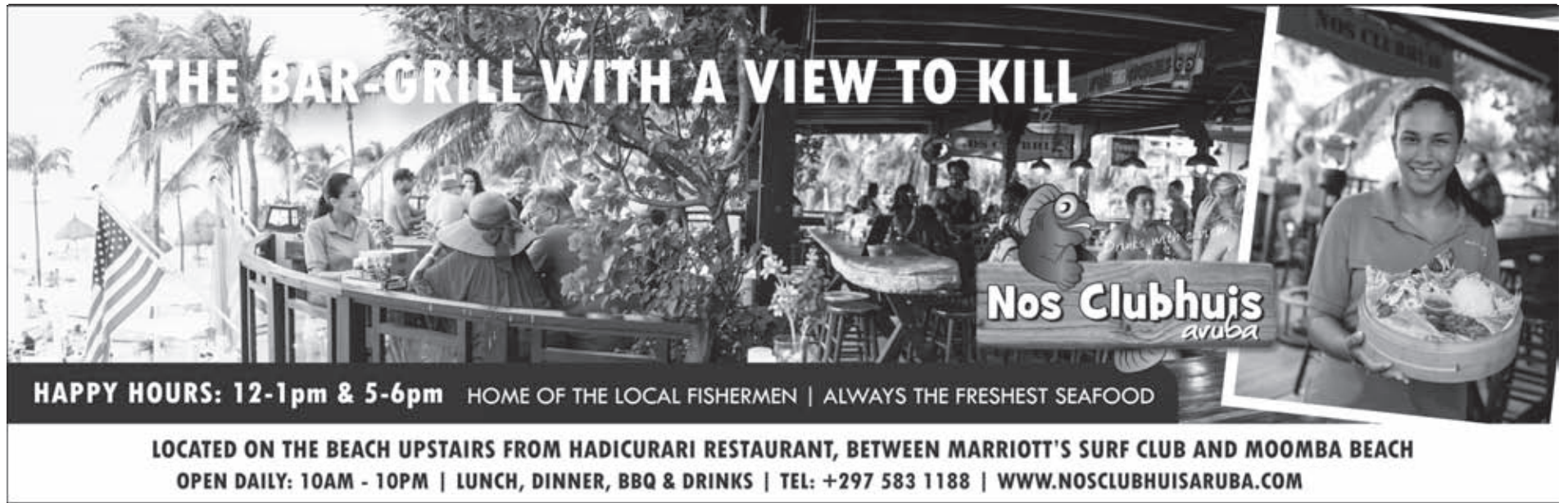
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Nowhere to run: Rohingya hunker down as monsoon arrives

By KRISTEN GELINEAU

Associated Press

UKHIYA, Bangladesh (AP)

— The hill on which the young woman's shelter is being built is so unstable that the earth crumbles under your feet. The threat of landslides is so dire that her neighbors have evacuated. Though living here could spell doom as the monsoon rains fall, she will live here anyway.

For Mustawkima, a Rohingya woman who fled Myanmar for the refugee camps of neighboring Bangladesh, there is no other option.

Hers is a dilemma repeated over and over for many of the 900,000 Rohingya refugees living in ramshackle huts across this unsteady landscape: With the long-dreaded monsoon season now upon them, they have run out of places to run.

For months, officials raced to relocate the most at-risk families to safer areas that had been bulldozed flat, but there simply isn't enough available land. Most refugees believe it is too dangerous to return to Myanmar, where the military launched a brutal campaign of violence against the minority Rohingya Muslims last year. And so, as the rains begin to flood parts of the camps, many Rohingya find themselves trapped — by geography, by poverty and by fear.

The bamboo shelter on the crumbling hillside will be Mustawkima's third attempt at finding a home in the camps. She has had to do everything on her own;



In this June 27, 2018, photo, a man covers his shelter with waterproof tarp as he prepares for the monsoon season in Chakmarkul refugee camp, Bangladesh.

Associated Press

Her husband was killed when the military stormed their village in August 2017. Mustawkima, who like some Rohingya uses only one name, abandoned her first shelter when the soil washed away. With five children under the age of 8, she wanted her new home to be close to relatives living at the base of the hill, so she erected a flimsy tarp halfway up. But when the rains began in June, the water quickly poured in, transforming her dirt floor into a muddy mess.

Frightened, she sold off some of her donated rations of rice, lentils and oil so she could hire men to build her a sturdier shelter in the same spot. The bamboo and sandbags were donated by aid agencies. She fears there isn't enough material, but she has no

money to buy extra bamboo.

Families living in five shelters on the hill recently evacuated, she says. She can only hope that her relatives will protect her and her children when the worst of the rains arrive.

The most intense rains are expected over the next few months, though heavy downpours began pummeling the camps in June. There have already been more than 160 landslides, 30 people injured and one toddler killed, according to the Inter Sector Coordination Group, or ISCG, which oversees the aid agencies in the camps.

"Within 24 hours of the first rains falling, we were seeing small landslides and we were seeing flooding everywhere," says Daphnee Cook, a spokeswoman

for Save the Children. "I've been here for seven months and I was appalled at how quickly things started to fall apart."

The ferocity of the rains and the swiftness with which they can wreak havoc is stunning. On a recent day, it took just minutes for a downpour to transform the face of another hill into a waterfall, with torrents of muddy water cascading down dirt steps.

Beyond the landslides and flooding, there are worries about waterborne diseases like cholera. Some of the latrines are piled high with fly-riddled excrement, which seeps out the sides during downpours. Water pumps are generally just a few meters away — worse, some are located downhill. Aid workers have cleaned out thousands of latrines.

Children are receiving identity bracelets in case they are separated from parents in the flooding. Families have received extra materials to fortify their shelters. Trenches have been dug to try and redirect floodwaters.

Ultimately, though, the topography of the camps is the biggest problem. The trees that once covered the hills have been cut down to make room for shelters, and the roots dug up for firewood. That process has dramatically loosened the soil, which the rains turn into heavy mud that slips down the hillsides, burying anything in its path. The jagged scar on Mohamed Alom's head is a grim reminder of the dangers of those landslides. The 27-year-old was asleep in his shelter last month when a torrent of mud crashed through the plastic wall next to him. A tree root slammed into his head, slicing open his skin. His agonized screams awakened his wife and two young children, who rushed him to a doctor.

Now, he and his family are among 13 people living in a one-room schoolhouse. Alom is hoping officials will help him build a new shelter, but he has no idea how long that will take.

More than 200,000 people are living in areas considered at risk of landslides and flooding, according to the ISCG. Around 34,000 refugees have been relocated to other areas, with some moving into sturdier shelters further away from the hills. □



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Pro-independence Hong Kong party faces possible ban

By CHANDRA WONG

Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Authorities on Tuesday told a political party that advocates independence for Hong Kong the group might be banned on national security grounds, in one of the most severe steps against separatist voices since the territory returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

In a letter to the leader of the Hong Kong National Party, 27-year-old Andy Chan, the territory's security bureau said the group has three weeks to make a case for why it should be allowed to operate.

An official believes the party should be dissolved "in the interests of national security or public safety, public order or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others," the letter said. It cited a national security law that has not been invoked since 1997.

The bespectacled Chan, who wore a crew-neck T-shirt and black wristwatch as he fielded phone calls on Tuesday, told The Associated Press that police approached him with documents detailing his speeches and activities since the party's formation in 2016. The party was founded in response to frustration about Beijing's treatment of Hong Kong. Despite a promise of autonomy, activists complain mainland influence over its democratic elections is increasing.

"Hong Kong National Party has always been an enemy of China," Chan said. He



Leader of the Hong Kong National Party Andy Chan speaks on his mobile after an interview in Hong Kong, Tuesday, July 17, 2018.

Associated Press

said the group has never registered with police because they do not want to disclose all their information.

Chan said he suspected the proposed ban is related to a trip he made to Taiwan earlier this month, when he held a news conference with politicians there to talk about the human rights situation in Hong Kong. Hong Kong's security secretary, John Lee, said police recommended banning the group.

"Hong Kong has freedom of association, but that right is not without restriction," Lee said at a news conference. He said national security "means safeguarding the territorial integrity and independence of the People's Republic of China."

Chan and other pro-independence candidates were disqualified from 2016

elections to the Hong Kong legislature after they refused to sign a pledge saying Hong Kong is an inalienable part of China. The Hong Kong National Party has never held any seats on the council.

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Brazil's Lula is in jail but never far from the headlines

By SARAH DiLORENZO

Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP) — He's tweeting about the politics of the day. He's offered commentary on the World Cup. And he's leading polls for October's presidential election.

Yes, he's still in jail.

Former Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva — universally known as Lula — has not faded from the headlines during his three months behind bars.

Instead, analysts say his public profile is part of a risky strategy to attract attention and voters to his Workers' Party — even if the ex-president himself is not ultimately on the ballot.

"The more time the (Workers' Party) spends doing this, the less time there will be for another candidate to gain name recognition, to travel the country as the candidate," said Oliver Stuenkel, a professor of international relations at the Fundacao Getulio Vargas university in Sao Paulo.

The Workers' Party publicly maintains there is no Plan B: They say da Silva's conviction last year on corruption charges related to the country's sprawling Car Wash investigation was unjust, and they intend to register his candidacy in August, despite a law that bars candidates who have had a conviction upheld. Jose Crispiniano, a spokesman for da Silva, contends the law allows candidates with pending appeals to



In this April 5, 2018 file photo, Brazil's former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva waves to supporters, in Sao Bernardo do Campo, Brazil.

Associated Press

run for office.

The Superior Electoral Tribunal will make the final decision and is considered unlikely to issue a ruling favorable to him.

In the meantime, though, da Silva seems to be everywhere.

Every few days, his aides post messages from him on his Twitter account.

In one recent tweet, for example, he questioned whether the government had "any notion of the suffering of a father or mother who can't provide sustenance for his or her family." In another, he criticized a government privatization plan as selling "the country in a liquidation sale, without a care for tomorrow."

Lately, the account has

promoted his Instagram profile and a new YouTube page, although his influence extends well beyond social media.

During the World Cup, he wrote commentaries that were read out on a TV station allied with his party. Supporters can also download a paper mask of his face from his website or learn from a video how to say "Lula" in sign language. The media blitz appears to have two goals, said Vitor Oliveira, director of analysis at Pulso Publico, a political consulting firm. The first is the hope that keeping da Silva as the candidate for as long as possible will increase the chances that voters will throw their support to another candidate

of da Silva's choosing, if he is barred from running. The second is the bet that building excitement around da Silva could help in elections for the lower house of Congress, where voters can choose a party rather than a specific candidate. Much of the fanfare may be preaching to the converted, and Crispiniano, the spokesman, notes that da Silva's allies have no control over whether or how the Brazilian press covers the former president. But last week, da Silva commanded the nation's attention for an entire day as a judicial battle unfolded over whether he should be released from jail. The president of an appeals court finally stepped in and

decided he should remain incarcerated after dramatic back-and-forth rulings issued by different judges.

That chaos may have further bolstered the Workers' Party's narrative that the judiciary is unfairly targeting da Silva, Oliveira said.

"The voter who is unsure ... who maybe has sympathy with the Workers' Party, with Lula, but who is not content, maybe you put a bug in this person's ear," said Oliveira. "This person is thinking about voting for the Workers' Party again."

Then again, the turmoil on display during the fight over whether to release da Silva could unintentionally push voters into the arms of far-right congressman Jair Bolsonaro, who is running in distant second and promises to clean house.

"There's a sense that people are tired, this entire apparatus is broken, everybody just acts in their own self-interest," said Stuenkel. He said that some voters might ultimately think: "Our country's rudderless, we need someone who shows us how to get out of this very difficult situation."

For now, da Silva continues to be in the spotlight. After another judicial ruling last week that said he can't give interviews from jail or record campaign material, his social media accounts posted a previously unreleased interview conducted before he was incarcerated and promised there were more to come. □

Argentina airport evacuated due to grenade-like pot grinder



In this photo, an officer holds a pot grinder made in the shape of a grenade, which triggered evacuation of the Astor Piazzolla airport in Argentina, Tuesday, July 17, 2018.

Associated Press

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — It looked like a grenade and triggered the evacuation of an Argentine airport. But it turns out that it was just a marijuana grinder. The head of Argentina's national airport police security said Tuesday that the grenade-shaped object found at Astor Piazzolla airport in the coastal city of Mar del Plata was actually used to break pot into smaller pieces for smok-

ing.

"Someone must have discarded the artifact before boarding on a plane," Alejandro Itzcovich told local TV.

He said that authorities "confirmed that it was not an explosive and we're now trying to determine who the owner of this object is."

Photographs showed an officer in a bomb suit holding the grinder in his hand while colleagues looked at it and smiled. Several flights were de-

layed due to the evacuation in Mar del Plata, about 250 miles (400 kilometers) southeast of the Argentine capital.

In 2016, flights were also delayed at Bellingham International Airport in Washington state after a marijuana grinder designed to resemble a grenade was found in a man's carry-on luggage. Something similar happened earlier that year at California's Sacramento International Airport. □

LOCAL



Helping Hands for Less Fortunate Children

By Linda Reijnders

SAN NICOLAS — Helping Hand Foundation is an organization that contributes to the less fortunate children of Aruba. One of the volunteers is Aruba Today's highly appreciated photo columnist Steve Francees. Steve shares his personal experience with us about the rewarding volunteer work of Helping Hand Foundation.

Steve: "Our main focus is the children in foster homes and in families that can't take care of them. Two weeks ago we decided to help the illegal Venezuelans on the island with grocery and also medicine for some children/babies that don't have a legal status on the island, so also no medical insurance." The foundation wishes to offer a unique learning & growing experience to the less fortunate children of Aruba between the ages of 9 and 12, through dedication, courage and collaboration with other similar foundations. Helping Hand Foundation works closely with other foundations in the selection process to ensure that every child in need and that is part of our target group gets the chance to experience the fun. Their primary focus is to design well thought out "Fun



Camps" during which besides fun and education, open communication and bonding between the crew and the children are cen-

tralized. These "Fun Camps" will primarily take place during school breaks, however they also aim to maintain contact with the children every month at social gatherings; movie nights, rides and other get-togethers.

We Are A team

Steve recently took four kids on a day out to have fun. "These kids are all born in Aruba by illegal parents, so they still have no identity (ID), their mother is now in the Dominican Republic and can't take care of herself. The father is somewhere on Aruba, still illegal and the kids ended up at their grandmother, living all in one bedroom house." So for the last 6 years, the foundation has been taking care of them: school, foster care, court, police and so on, and this year they accepted them in Imeldahoff and the two girls in Casa Cuna, both children's homes. "It's not me only, but we are a team of volunteers working in our neighborhood. This is one case but we had a lot more over the last years." Every year they visit the children's department at the hospital as well as other departments on Mother's

Day and Father's Day, they organize a Christmas program for Cas Marie (home for demented elderly) and they have organized a kids choir and kids camps, a children program, help cancer patients and so on.

Support

"We don't get any support from the government, what we do is 100% out of our own pocket of the team that we are working with. We believe that we need to serve the needy and give support to whoever need it." At this moment their focus is to support children that have one of their parents died of cancer and the foundation is taking care of two now. "We are also helping a teenager that suffers from a very rare disease and he couldn't continue with his study for this reason. Yesterday his sister told me that he wants to be a Barista, and the Foundation decided helping him paying for his course."

More information about the foundation is to be found at Facebook: Helping Hand Foundation Aruba



Opinion column: Caribbean aviation taxes may cause economic strangulation



By Cdr. Bud Slabbaert

ORANJESTAD — If an airport in the Caribbean wishes to be an international hub, or even a regional hub, it is

probably well advised to drop departure taxes and other passenger taxes. Passenger taxation is 'swamp taxation' because no one besides the receiver wants it, and it sucks.

"Dutch Government ditch- es passenger ticket tax in efforts to halt declining traffic at Amsterdam Inter- national Airport, the media reported in 2009. It was first camouflaged by the name 'eco'-tax. The controversial departure tax ranging from 11 to 45 Euros was blamed for a steep decline in passenger traffic within a year after its introduction. The tax was expected to raise around US\$ 395 mil- lion a year but a commis- sioned report concluded that it would cost the Dutch economy US\$ 1.7 billion in lost revenue. Passengers were driving across the bor- der to neighboring airports in Belgium or Germany to avoid the tax.

Could that dynamic hap- pen in the Caribbean? Sure! Passengers will opt for a different island hub or destination that doesn't have the taxes, but does have the sun, the beaches and the palm trees, plus the new discovery may even have more to offer. Com-

petition in doubled degree.

A 2017 report of PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) commissioned by 'Airlines for Europe', provided an independent overview of the current air passenger taxes in Europe and an as- sessment of their economic impact. PwC simulated the impact of abolishing the tax entirely in January 2018 in Germany. Some of the results of the study: 24.6 million additional ar- rivals by 2020; 10.5 million extra inbound tourist arriv- als by 2020; 1.8 billion US\$ additional expenditure by 2020. It was estimated that the total existing passenger taxes will raise US\$ 1.2 billion in a year, however after the abolition of all taxes 108% of this will be recouped in indirect tax income any- way. The abolition of the air passenger tax would boost the country's GDP by US\$ 79 billion cumulatively over the next 12 years.

ICAO is the International Civil Aviation Organi- zation. a specialized agency of the United Nations. It codifies the principles and techniques of international air navigation and fosters the planning and devel- opment of international air transport to ensure safe and orderly growth. ICAO is distinct from other interna- tional air transport organi- zations, like the Internation- al Air Transport Association (IATA), a trade association representing airlines.

ICAO has clear policies on taxation and Member States are urged to apply ICAO policies on taxation in regulatory practices. ICAO Assembly Resolutions have repeatedly urged Member States to follow the ICAO policies on taxation and not to impose taxes on the sale or use of international air transport. Yet, Member States have not included in their ASA's (Article on Taxa- tion) a commitment to re- duce or eliminate taxes on the sale and use of interna- tional air transport.

Continued on Page 17



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Randy and Karen find Nos Clubhuis a `10 out of 10!'

PALM BEACH — "We travel a lot, but Nos Clubhuis is our favorite place", say Randy Tate and Karen Baur from Rocklin, California. The two are here for the first time, enjoying their vacation. They discovered Nos Clubhuis while walking down the beach and it was love at first sight. "I will report to TripAdvisor that this place and this island are spectacular. The staff is awesome, in particular Tess, Tony, Jim, Naomi and Peggy; they are always smiling and friendly - very welcoming indeed. For us Nos Clubhuis is a 10 out of 10."

Come back soon, please! ☐



Today's Happening



A weekly calendar with a selection of what's going on in Aruba

Wednesday 18

Local Movie Night

- During the vacation period MFA, a multi-functional facility that brings both governmental and social services to the community, will be presenting every week a movie for the whole family. Featuring this week "Ferdinand"
- Starts at 8 PM
- MFA Noord
- Facebook MFA Noord Aruba



Sunday 22

BBQ Buffet- All you can eat

- All you can eat ribs, chicken and beef skewers, sausages and grouper.
- From 5 PM – 10 PM
- Moomba Beach Bar & Restaurant
- Facebook Moomba Beach



Monday 23

Aruba Ray's Comedy

- Comedians show with stars from America's Got talent, Tonight Show & Comedy Central
- From 8.30 PM
- Marriot Resort & Stellaris Casino
- Facebook Aruba Ray's Comedy



Thursday 19

Arikok National Park

- You are warmly invited to Arikok National Park and enjoy Aruba's natural beauty at its best. Explore the parks Highlights. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities are available. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours.
- 8 AM – 4 PM
- San Fuego 70, Santa Cruz
- Facebook Arikok National Park



Friday 20

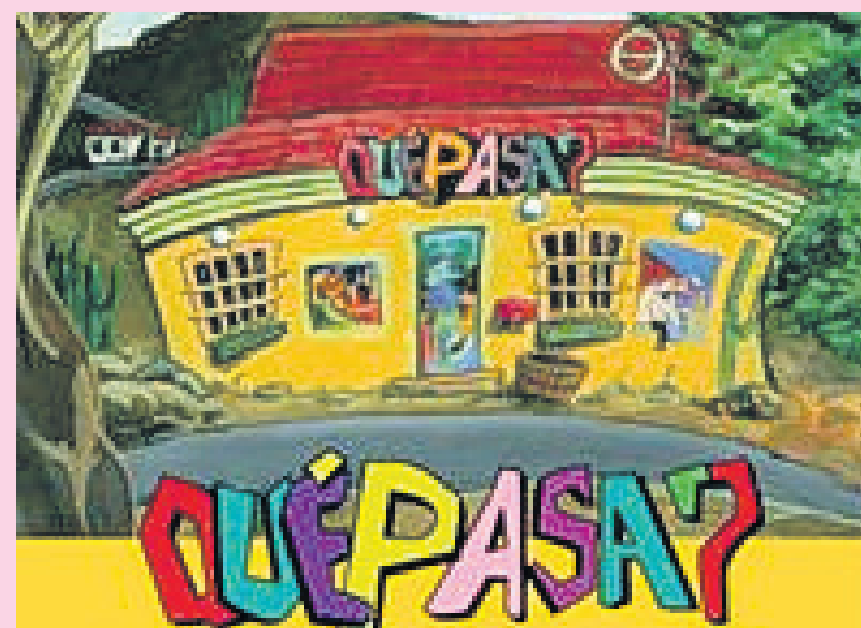
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- 3-course Tasting Menu at restaurant Windows on Aruba at Divi Village Golf & Beach resort
- From 6 PM
- Restaurant Windows on Aruba, Eagle Beach
- Facebook Windows on Aruba

Saturday 21

Aruba Symphony Festival Opening Concert

- More than 100 First class musicians from all over the world gather on stage with the Aruba Symphony Orchestra and the Nuevo Mundo Chamber Orchestra.
- Starts at 8 PM
- Cas di Cultura
- Facebook Aruba Symphony Festival



Tuesday 24

Joy of Aruba

- Joy of Aruba is performed at the Divi Divi Hotel by the Popcorn Dancers, one of Aruba's best Youth Dance Group. The performers will be presenting the most popular folkloric & modern music and dance of the island of Aruba. The Popcorn Dancers are determined to bring pleasure for your eyes, ears, heart & soul.
- From 9 PM till 10PM
- Divi & Tamarijn Aruba All Inclusive
- Facebook Popcorn Club & Dancers Aruba

Continued from Page 14

Caribbean Member States of ICAO are the sovereign countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago.

Already, in 2013, at their Worldwide Transport Conference, the ICAO issued the following text to be included in their Template Article on Taxation (TASA) :

".... Each party shall undertake to reduce to the fullest practicable extent and make plans to eliminate as soon as its economic conditions permit all forms of taxation on the sale or use of international air transport, including such taxes for services which are not required for international civil aviation or which may discriminate against it."

According ICAO a tax is a levy that is designed to raise national or local government revenues, which are generally not applied to civil aviation in their entirety or on a cost specific basis. ICAO has also recognized that in the past decades there is a development of tourism taxes in some regions, in particular Latin America, the Caribbean and to a lesser extent in Africa, up to USD 55. In many cases, revenues from the tourism taxes such as Tourism Enhancement Fee and Travel Promotional levies are not being reinvested in tourism development. The Caribbean may get the reputation of being one of the bad guys on the block in that regard.

The main principles on taxation contained in ICAO policies are frequently adopted by international organizations in policy documents. Some regional organizations and industry associations, such as the Airports Council International (ACI) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA), have also developed policies that are opposed to discriminatory and unfair government taxation on air transport. The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), while not

opposed to taxes per se, as part of the overall fiscal responsibility of States, considers that travel taxes should be scrutinized objectively to avoid excessive burdens on travelers/companies with a view to reducing taxes that have a negative impact on travel and, hence, on tourism development.

Despite these policies, the past decade has seen an unprecedented proliferation of taxes levied on air passenger tickets in the region. This trend is causing serious concerns and has a negative impact on the sustainable development of air transport, which, ultimately, negatively impacts the tourism industry and the overall national economic development.

Caribbean governments are well advised that before making a decision, an independent evaluation by qualified professionals acquainted with economics should be made on the impact of passenger taxation. A 'neat' idea to get some extra money in the coffers, may turn out to be a monkeynomics. What plays a crucial role and contributes significantly to an economy must not be hindered by ineffective government taxation. □



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SPORTS



As MLB mulls rule changes, union hints at work stoppage

By RONALD BLUM

AP Baseball Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Major League Baseball wants a broad discussion with players about rule changes to combat decreased offense and longer games, an initiative likely to be met by a testy union stung by declining free-agent prices and already raising the possibility of a work stoppage after the 2021 season.

Commissioner Rob Manfred and players' association head Tony Clark outlined their differing agendas during separate sessions with the Baseball Writers' Association of America before Tuesday night's All-Star Game.

"There is a growing consensus or maybe even better an existing consensus among ownership that we need to have a really serious conversation about making some changes to the way the game is being played," Manfred said. "We are not at the point where I can articulate for you what particular rule changes might get serious consideration. I can tell you the issues that concern people: I think that the period of time between putting balls in play, the number of strikeouts, to a lesser extent the number of home runs, the significance of the shift and what it's done to the game, the use of relief pitchers and the way starting pitchers are going to be used."

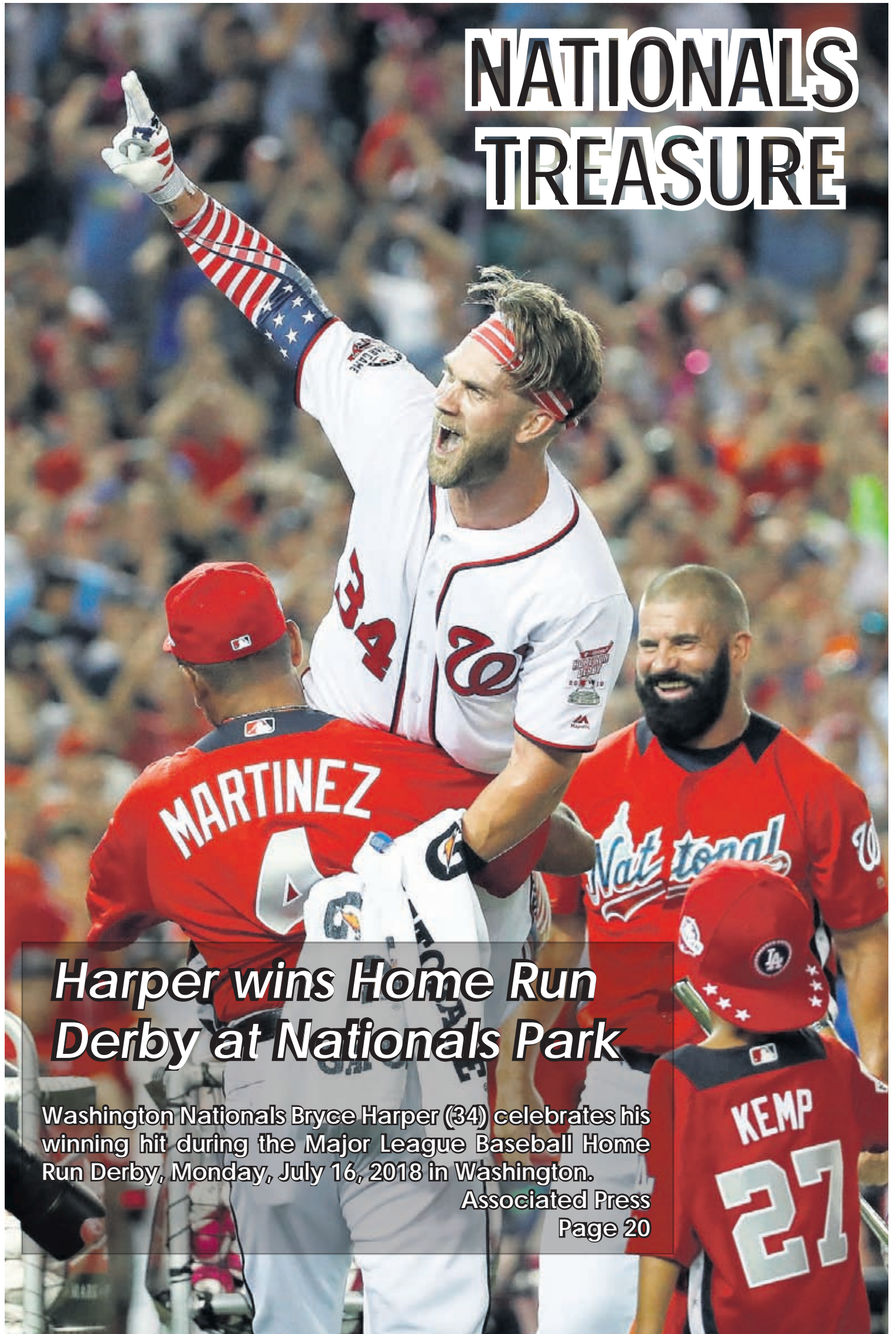
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NATIONALS TREASURE

Harper wins Home Run Derby at Nationals Park

Washington Nationals Bryce Harper (34) celebrates his winning hit during the Major League Baseball Home Run Derby, Monday, July 16, 2018 in Washington.

Associated Press
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Woods says British Open becomes best shot at a major

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

CARNOUSTIE, Scotland (AP)

— Tiger Woods doesn't feel as old at the oldest championship in golf.

Back at the British Open for the first time in three years, Woods broke from his tradition on Tuesday morning. Instead of being among the first on the tee for practice, he didn't show up at Carnoustie until his news conference just before lunch. Then, he played nine holes with Masters champion Patrick Reed and Bryson DeChambeau.

This was not a case of a 42-year-old needing his rest. Entering the year having not played any major since the end of 2015 and the start of three back surgeries, Woods has been feeling better as 2018 has gone on. And there's something about links golf that inspires him.

"It's my favorite type of golf to play," Woods said. "I love playing here, this type of links golf, or a style of links golf down on the Aussie sand belt ... because it is creative. We're not going to get the most perfect bounces. And I think that's the fun challenge of it."

He made his links debut at Carnoustie in 1995 as an amateur at the Scottish Open, a week before his British Open debut at St. Andrews. He hasn't contended on the back nine in the previous Opens at Carnoustie, in 1999 and 2007, though he wasn't far from a playoff. Might this be his best shot at winning another major? "Not to be smart, but it is the next major I'm playing," Woods said with a laugh.

But over time, he thinks it might be his best chance because of history. Woods recalls 53-year-old Greg Norman playing in the final group at Royal Birkdale in 2008, a major Woods missed because of knee surgery. The following year, Woods missed the cut for the first time at the British Open when 59-year-old Tom Watson was one putt away from winning at Turnberry. "You don't have to

be long to play on a links-style golf course," Woods said. "You get to places like Augusta National, where it's just a big ballpark, and the golf course outgrows you, unfortunately. That's just the way it goes. But a links-style golf course, you can roll the ball. Distance becomes a moot point." That said, distance is everything at Carnoustie this year, which Woods discovered when he arrived Sunday. How far the ball travels in the warm, dry air is not the issue. It's how far it travels once it gets on the baked turf. Dustin Johnson discovered that when he arrived on Saturday and reached the 499-yard 18th hole, with a stiff breeze at his back and fairways running only slightly slower than they did on the weekend at Shinnecock Hills.

He hit driver into the burn. The next day, his drive was a few yards short of the burn. "I hit some irons, and depending on the wind, I'll probably hit anywhere from ... I've hit 3-wood, 3-iron and 4-iron off the tee," Johnson said. "I like all of them."

With the wind at his back on the 513-yard 14th hole, Johnson hit 3-iron and wedge. One thing hasn't changed about links golf — it's best to keep the ball out of the pot bunkers, which effectively are a one-shot penalty. The question for so many players is whether that means going down to as little as a 7-iron off the tee (such as the 350-yard third hole) or smashing driver over all the trouble.

Johnson figures he'll hit driver on half of the holes. U.S. Open champion Brooks Koepka might hit as many as nine drivers.

The conditions are as brittle as Muirfield in 2013, though most comparisons are with Hoylake in 2006, when Woods won the Open for the second straight time by hitting driver only one time all week. "There's not a lot of opportunities to hit the driver just because the ball is going to be rolling 80 yards," Woods said. "It's just hard to keep the

ball in play. Even hitting sometimes 4- and 5-irons, they've been running 50, 60 yards. It's going to be an interesting test to see which clubs we're going to be using off the tees, and a lot of it is dependent on which way the wind blows."

Woods had a 2-iron built for him specifically for the British Open, and he wonders how much he'll even use it. That has been too much club off the tee. Instead, most of his shots are with a 3-iron or 4-iron.

Reed was familiar with conditions the year Woods won at Hoylake, even though he was only 15. Reed won the Junior British Open that summer at Heswall, not far from Royal Liverpool. It was not only dry but extremely



Tiger Woods of the United States walks the 3rd hole during a practice round for the 147th British Open Golf championships in Carnoustie, Scotland, Tuesday, July 17, 2018. The Open Golf championships starts Thursday.

Associated Press

hot, and Reed was in rain pants because he didn't like wearing shorts.

"I'll never forget hitting the first tee shot and being as young as I was, getting

up there, and it was 308," Reed said. "And I was just like, 'Wow, I just hit a drive over 300 yards.' And now I'm hitting 2-irons over 360." □

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Hometown hero Harper wins thrilling HR Derby over Schwarber

By DAVID GINSBURG
AP Sports Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The ball cleared the center field wall, and the sellout crowd roared. Bryce Harper threw his bat in the air, thrust both index fingers skyward and yelled with delight as a shower of streamers rained upon the crowd of 43,698. It could have been a scene from a playoff game. That it was merely the All-Star Home Run Derby mattered not to Harper or the Washington Nationals fans, who were thrilled to see their hometown hero deliver the night's final longball Monday.

In the midst of it all — and in the middle of trying season — Harper grabbed the microphone and said: "This crowd: Wow! Washington



Washington Nationals Bryce Harper stands with his father Ron Harper after Bryce won the Major League Baseball Home Run Derby, Monday, July 16, 2018 in Washington.

Associated Press

Nationals, baby!"

With an exceptional display of power and clutch hitting, Harper rallied in the final round, connecting on pitches from his father to beat Kyle Schwarber of the

Chicago Cubs 19-18.

Harper hit the contest-winning blast in extra time, the reward for hitting two homers at least 440 feet during the 4 minutes of regulation. After he connected

with the game winner, the Nationals star immediately went into celebration mode.

"We have some of the best fans in all of baseball, and to be able to that with my family out there, that's an incredible moment, not only for me but for the organization and the Nationals fans," Harper said. Harper's teammate, Max Scherzer, the NL starter on Tuesday night, also appreciated the moment.

"It's awesome. Hometown," Scherzer said. "The crowd is behind him. He found some rhythm, kept it simple and just continued to hit home run after home run."

Wearing a headband that resembled the District of Columbia flag and displaying a right sleeve with stars and stripes, Harper trailed 18-9 with 1:20 left before rallying. He homered on nine of his last 10 swings before entering extra time.

The six-time All-Star arranged to have his dad, Ron, pitch to him in the annual contest on the eve of the All-Star Game. That made the victory even sweeter.

"I'm only as good as my BP guy," Harper said with a grin.

Hours before the session, Harper spoke excitedly about having his dad pitch to him in the contest. The 25-year-old said his father "worked his tail off every single day to provide for me and my family" and "now being able to have him throw to me in a big league ballpark is the cherry on top."

Afterward, Ron Harper said of his son: "He did great. So I'm really proud of him. He's a great kid. You couldn't ask for anything better."

It's been a tough year for

Harper, who's hitting only .214 for the disappointing Nationals. He won a contest that many sluggers avoid, fearful it might wear them out and throw them off.

He can only hope this helps him get back into the swing.

The 2015 NL MVP beat Freddie Freeman of the Atlanta Braves and Max Muncy of the Dodgers before trouncing the fifth-seeded Schwarber, who put the pressure on with a solid outing before Harper stepped to the plate.

"As soon as I got done with that round I told myself that (Harper) had it," Schwarber said. "I knew that he had the home crowd behind him." Harper, who has 23 home runs this season, advanced to the final with an astonishing spree of long-ball hitting. He trailed Max Muncy of the Dodgers 12-4 with 2:20 left, then peeled off six homers in 47 seconds before calling a timeout.

Harper returned to hit three more home runs in 22 seconds, the last of them inside the right-field foul pole.

The semifinal matchup between Schwarber and Philadelphia's Rhys Hoskins went down to the final swing. After stunning top-seed Jesus Aguilar of Milwaukee in the opening round, the eighth-seeded Hoskins ripped 20 long balls to put the pressure on Schwarber. Using a late surge, Schwarber pulled one ball after another over the right field wall to squeeze out a 21-20 victory — by far the highest-scoring matchup of the night.

The fans dutifully cheered most home runs during the first round, but they saved their loudest cheers for Harper, the last player to step to the plate. □

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MLB Stoppage

Continued from Page 18

Clark repeatedly maintained players are reluctant to change as "stewards of the game."

"We may get to a point where those coming to the ballpark or have an interest in coming to the ballpark for whatever reason aren't 100 percent certain that what they are seeing is the type of game that they want to see," he said.

More than 100 free agents remained unsigned when spring training began this year. Many agreed to deals at a fraction of the price they thought they were worth and for fewer years than they expected.

"What we experienced last offseason was a direct attack on free agency, which has been a bedrock of our economic system, and if that is going to be different, then we have some very difficult decisions to make moving forward," Clark said.

Baseball had eight work stoppages from 1972-95 but has had labor peace since. The current five-year

contract runs through the 2021 season, and Clark left open a possible return to the era of strife.

"To the extent there are challenges to those rights, historically I would suggest those have manifested themselves in a particular way," he said.

The union filed a grievance in February against Miami, Oakland, Pittsburgh and Tampa Bay, accusing the teams of failing to appropriately spend revenue-sharing money in an effort to improve their on-field product. Manfred dismissed the allegations, saying the grievance was filed "really for publicity reasons."

Manfred said the lack of interest in free agents was due to the dearth of quality. "At the end of the year you'll look at the performance of those players," he said, "I'm pretty sure, based on what's already in the books, you're going to make the judgment that the clubs made sound decisions as to how those players should be valued." Management is alarmed by what is taking place on

the field. Strikeouts (24,537) are on track to surpass hits (24,314) for the first time. Strikeouts also are likely to set a record for the 12th straight season, and this year's average of 17.0 per game is up from 12.6 in 2005. The current big league batting average of .247 would be the lowest since 1972.

There have been 20,587 shifts on balls in play, according to Baseball Info Solutions. That projects to a full-season total of 34,668 — up 29.8 percent from last year and an increase from 6,882 for the entire 2013 season. That has decreased the batting average of stars such as Washington's Bryce Harper, who is hitting just .214.

And the average attendance of 28,568 is down from the 30,159 at the break last year, when the final figure was 30,042. MLB has not dropped below 30,000 since 2002.

Manfred blamed early season bad weather.

"We've made up some ground," he said. "We were down as much as 8, 9 (per-



In this Feb. 19, 2017, file photo, Tony Clark, executive director of the Major League Players Association, answers questions at a news conference in Phoenix.

Associated Press

cent) early, we were back to like 5.5 percent down, and I'm optimistic."

Lack of competitiveness among rebuilding teams also is a likely factor. Three teams are on track to lose 100 or more games, which would match the record set in 2002, and five others are on a pace for 90 or more defeats.

Clark called the attendance drop "dramatic" and said while weather is partly to blame "the concerns that fans have in regards to the competitive integrity piece is one of them" along with "players being moved from teams that fans had a connection

with."

While he wouldn't cite teams for tanking, he said it appears many clubs are deciding to rebuild if analytics tell them they can't compete to win the World Series.

"This is only what I am hearing, that teams are making decisions against the backdrop of what they believe their roster is going to yield and the landing place of where their team is going to be at the end of the year, that those data points suggest if you're not in a particular place, then it may make more sense not to look to be the last team standing," he said. □

FFA cool on Usain Bolt's A-League bid

SYDNEY (AP) — Football Federation Australia has responded cautiously to reports Usain Bolt hopes to play for the Central Coast Mariners in the A-League.

Reports on Tuesday said the 31-year-old Bolt, an eight-time Olympic sprint gold medalist, has agreed to trial with the Mariners next month and may receive a one-season A-League contract if he impresses.

However, in order to make a deal possible the FFA would have to top up any salary offered to Bolt from its \$3 million fund to attract "marquee" players. The Mariners owner reportedly has offered to meet 70 percent of Bolt's salary but the FFA's contribution might still be around \$900,000.

In a statement late Tuesday, the FFA said, "While Usain Bolt is one of the most famous athletes on the planet, he's not a profes-

sional footballer. "If the trial goes ahead and Central Coast Mariners decided it stacks up and they want to offer him a contract, then we will have a discussion with them around that and what might be possible."

Bolt, who quit the track last year, has already trialed unsuccessfully with Germany's Borussia Dortmund and South Africa's Mamelodi Sundowns.

Many regard reports he might trial with the Mariners as a public relations stunt. His previous trials were with clubs which shared his major sponsor.

Mariners chief executive Shaun Mielekamp said he hoped to have details of any trial finalized by late August. "It is crucial to note that all discussions between the Central Coast Mariners and Bolt require an initial six-week trial period and no contract is guar-

anteed," a club statement said. Bolt's long-time agent, Ricky Sims, confirmed the Jamaican athlete is considering the Mariners' offer of a trial. "Usain has made it quite clear that he's interested in playing professional football," Sims told the Australian Associated Press. "We're looking at a number of options and this is one of them." Australian player agent Tony Rallis, who first revealed Bolt's interest in playing in the A-League, said Bolt was genuine in his desire to play for the Mariners. "If he meets the benchmarks set by the coaches, he'll be given a contract," Rallis said. "He'll be treated like another one of the players and he doesn't want to be treated like a different player."

"He's got a point to prove and he's determined to prove he's worth a contract." □



In this Tuesday, June 12, 2018, file photo, former Olympic and Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt controls the ball during a charity soccer match between members of the 1998 World Cup winning French team and a team of international veteran players who were also involved in the same tournament, at the U Arena in Nanterre, north of Paris, France.

Associated Press

Take that for data: NBA preps for expanded betting on games

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Basketball Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Here's a scenario: LeBron James is four assists and three rebounds shy of a triple-double after three quarters. A bettor, who is watching at home and utilizing a mobile app, decides to gamble that James will get those assists and rebounds in the final 12 minutes. The wager then gets made before play resumes.

The NBA wants that bettor to see the best possible data.

So the league is seeking to get stats out quicker than ever. Fast isn't fast enough for the NBA anymore, not when it comes to stats — especially now that the U.S. Supreme Court has opened the door for states to allow wagering on games. The league has upgraded its stat systems in the past year to try and get its data out as close to real-time as possible, even aiming to beat the typical lag of 7-15 seconds that it takes for television or streaming services to show whatever happened. It's about what the NBA calls official data. The league's stance is that getting accurate stats to bettors is critical so the player knows what they're betting on and the casinos will know when to pay out or not. But how much value



In this Sept. 28, 2017 file photo, NBA Commissioner Adam Silver speaks during a news conference in New York.

Associated Press

that data has for casinos — and whether they will pay anything for it — remains unclear.

"My view is we should be compensated for our intellectual property, but we can do that directly, again, with commercial relationships with gaming establishments," said NBA Commissioner Adam Silver, whose league had hoped this matter would be resolved with federal regulation instead of various policies getting worked on state by state.

Silver met with betting officials in Las Vegas earlier this month, and how data should be provided was one of the topics on the agenda. The NBA has said it is seeking a 1 percent "integrity fee" on wagers, which the league said

would offset their additional security costs and compensate them for the data they can provide.

The casinos, however, are balking at a legislative mandate insisting upon the use of official data. Joe Asher, the CEO of bookmaker William Hill USA, told The New York Times that such a mandate "sets up monopoly pricing power. This whole thing of official league data is like a smoke screen."

It's a major issue to work through, especially if in-game betting — people betting on various aspects of games after they've already started — catches on in the United States the same way that it has in the United Kingdom.

In-game betting, which is huge in Europe, is still rela-

tively small in this country. Most Nevada bookmakers say in-game options make up no more than 5 percent of their sports-wagering business, although William Hill has said it accounted for nearly 25 percent of its sports business in the U.S. during 2017.

Only a handful of states have legalized sports betting since the Supreme Court decision in May, though several more states are expected to get operations up and running in the next year or so. Bettors now have been largely playing the basics — will Team X beat Team Y by more than six points, will the teams combine to score more than 210 points, that sort of thing.

"There's a couple things about official data that make it advantageous for sports betting," said Scott Kaufman-Ross, an NBA vice president who oversees fantasy sports and gaming. "Most is the speed. ... That's important for in-game betting." The NBA switched last year to software provided by Genius Sports, a London-based company that collects and distributes official data for dozens of sports federations around the globe and even recently completed a deal to work with the NCAA. The NBA data collected by Genius

has been distributed globally by Sportradar, which sends it to media outlets, broadcasters and betting outlets outside the U.S.

Sportradar, the NBA said, is now working on obtaining the ability to send the data to U.S.-based betting entities. NBA stat crews all generally work the same way: a primary caller uses a code to describe a play as it happens, a primary inputter uses a touch-screen tablet to punch in what he or she hears the caller say into the headsets that the crew share, a secondary inputter cleans up any mistakes, and a secondary caller is in contact with league offices in Secaucus, New Jersey, and reviews any plays that need additional study.

Those various crews, many members of which have received training during the summer league in Las Vegas, are the ones who decide who gets an assist or a rebound.

"The NBA has always been front and center on rapidly deploying statistics, first because of our television partners and then the Internet happened and that was good for the Internet," said Steve Hellmuth, the NBA's executive vice president for media operations and technology. "So it's kind of always been in our DNA." □

Cambage scores WNBA-record 53 points for Wings over Liberty

DALLAS (AP) — Elizabeth Cambage scored 53 points to set a WNBA record Tuesday, leading the Dallas Wings to a 104-87 victory over the New York Liberty. The 6-foot-8 Australian reached 50 points on a three-point play with 2:19 remaining and broke Riquana Williams' WNBA record of 51 points, set Sept. 8, 2013, on an open 3-pointer from the top of the key. "It's pretty big," Cambage said. "I've had big numbers in China, I've had big numbers in Australia, and I've heard a lot of people say I could never have big numbers here in the WNBA. So I guess this game is for y'all."

Cambage was 17 of 22 from the field with 10 rebounds and five blocks for her ninth double-double of the season. She made 15 of 16 free throws and outscored the Liberty's starting lineup by 10 points.

Glory Johnson and Allisha Gray each added 13 points for Dallas (13-9), which won its first home game against New York since 2016. Dallas coach Fred Williams was ejected with 1:44 remaining in the third quarter. New York took its first lead, 70-69, on the next possession, but Dallas opened the fourth quarter on a 12-3 run and cruised from there.

Kia Nurse scored 25 points,

including four 3-pointers, and Tina Charles added 19 for New York. The Liberty (7-15) had won their previous two games.

Cambage had 28 points in the first half to send the Wings to a 57-44 lead. She added five points in the

third quarter and broke her previous high of 37 points on a three-point play with 7:29 remaining. She finished 4 of 5 from 3-point range.

Cambage returned to the Dallas franchise after sitting out the past four years. She was drafted by Tulsa with

the second pick in 2011 behind Maya Moore.

Moore is third in the WNBA for most points in a game, scoring 48 in a double-overtime game in 2014. Phoenix's Diana Taurasi had 47 points in a three-OT game in 2006. □



Van Avermaet extends Tour lead as Sky bides its time

By JOSEPH WILSON

Associated Press

LE GRAND-BORNAND,

France (AP) — Facing the climbing prowess of Chris Froome's Team Sky, Greg Van Avermaet expected to lose his lead of the Tour de France on the first day in the mountains.

Instead, the Olympic champion managed to strengthen his hold on the yellow jersey when an anticipated attack never came on Tuesday's Stage 10.

Van Avermaet escaped in an early breakaway and held on when he was left all alone to struggle up the final of four Alpine passes. Once over the Col de la Colombiere, he glided down to the finish to remain leader for a seventh straight day.

"I was waiting for directions from Sky to see what they wanted. (But) the moment I went nobody reacted," Van Avermaet said. "It was the only way to keep the jersey and I'm very happy with my stage."

The prize was boosting his 43-second lead over Froome's teammate, Geraint Thomas, to an advan-

tage of 2 minutes, 22 seconds. Defending champion Froome was left sixth overall at 3:21 behind.

Julian Alaphilippe, a French rider for Quick-Step, won the 158.5-kilometer (98.5-mile) ride from Lake Annecy that included four major climbs before a descent to Le Grand-Bornand in 4 1/2 hours.

Van Avermaet's prediction that Sky would topple him from the general classification was not ill-founded. The Belgian is excellent in rolling terrain and single-day classics but not a top climber. He was also riding without his BMC team's best climber and leader, Richie Porte, who broke a collarbone on Sunday.

Precedent also pointed to a move by Sky. On the four Tours Froome has won, he has worn the yellow jersey after the first mountain stage.

It appears Sky was biding its time.

"It was some steep climbs and we were really expecting it to pick up somewhere (...) but it never really materialized," Thomas said. "With two big days to come everyone was prob-

ably saving it."

Or as Froome put it, "No one really showed all their cards today."

"Everyone played it a little conservatively maybe thinking about the next two days to come, which are going to be hard as well. From our side, I can just be happy with how the team rode and we had the numbers up front which was the main thing."

Up next on Wednesday's Stage 11 is a 108.5-kilometer (67-mile) leg from Albertville to the top of the La Rosiere summit. That will be followed by Stage 12's ascent of the legendary Alpe d'Huez.

Given the difficulty of those stages, Van Avermaet said he had no illusions of fending off Sky again.

"I give myself zero chance for tomorrow," Van Avermaet said.

Alejandro Valverde of Movistar moved into third overall at 3:10 off the pace. Jakob Fuglsang of Astana was next at 3:12. Among other title candidates, Adam Yates and Mikel Landa were on the same time as Froome, Vincenzo Nibali was ninth (3:27), Tom



France's Julian Alaphilippe rides to cross the finish line to win the tenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 158.8 kilometers (98.7 miles) with start in Annecy and finish in Le Grand-Bornand, France, Tuesday, July 17, 2018.

Associated Press

Dumoulin was 11th at 3:42, Romain Bardet was 14th at 4:11, and Nairo Quintana was 16th at 4:29.

Alaphilippe attacked on the third climb of the leg and finished more than a minute ahead of Jon Izagirre in second.

Froome was momentarily slowed down by mechanical mishaps on a gravel path atop the second climb up the beyond-category Montee du Plateau des Glieres, the first use of a dirt road by the Tour since 1987.

"I had a puncture on the dirt section and got a spare wheel from a teammate only to find out it was actually flat as well" Froome said. "It was a little bit of a comedy of errors going on there. But it was still far from the finish of the race so it wasn't too crazy and I was able to get back in."

Earlier, Dutch rider Annemiek Van Vleuten won the women's La Course for a second year in a row. The single-day race included most of the men's route. □

Governor dedicates park named for Olympic great Jesse Owens

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Ohio's governor on Tuesday dedicated a new state park and wildlife area named for Olympic great Jesse Owens.

Gov. John Kasich, accompanied by two of Owens' daughters, said that achievements of "heroes" such as Owens should be preserved to inspire others to "overcome challenges and accomplish their very best."

Owens was a world record-setting sprinter at Ohio State University and won four gold medals at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin. He died in 1980 at age 66.

"He's one of my heroes," Kasich said at the ceremony at Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium in Columbus. "He jumped and he



In this Aug. 5, 1936 file photo, American athlete Jesse Owens practices in the Olympic Village in Berlin.

jumped and he jumped into glory — and history," Kasich said of Owens' long-jump gold. "He sent a message to Hitler: He was not ever going to triumph."

The governor personally chose to name the park after Owens, The Columbus Dispatch reported.

Jesse Owens State Park and Wildlife Area in eastern Ohio was created after Ohio's Department of Natural Resources struck a deal with American Electric Power to buy a large portion of a 60,000-acre (24,281-hectare) parcel. The state hopes to buy more land from AEP to create the largest park in the state.

The money came from hunting and fishing license fees and parks and watercraft funds. □

Associated Press



By Dr. Carlos Viana

Aruba, with our beautiful beaches and perfect climate is an endless vacation paradise. However, the summer is traditionally known as "vacation time." With the children home from school, people make extensive plans to catch up on all the things they never seem to have enough time to do. They arrange elaborate family reunions and fly off to more exotic locations.

Traditionally, we vacation for several reasons. Though not all countries have evolved into the practice of vacationing, most do provide some time off for newly married couples. The "honeymoon," originally month long, was a reprieve from daily pressures where almost total strangers could adjust to living with another person. Today the "honeymoon" can be an extension of the courting period where new couples can agree on goals of their joint lives together.

A second reason for a vacation is the "second honeymoon." Special observances of wedding anniversaries are usually reserved for milestone dates like the tenth, twenty-fifth and the "golden" fiftieth anniversaries. During these honeymoon replays, some couples have a ceremony where wedding vows are repeated. This vacation then serves as a reaffirmation of the original hopes and aspirations for their marriage.

A third reason is a school break. School breaks were originally provided because children were essential in agricultural areas. In North America,

school summer vacation is three months long because immigrants could not exclude their children from the farming demands during the short growing season. Similarly, the spring recess coincides with the labor intensive period when live stock gave birth and crops needed to be sowed and the fall break coincides with the traditional harvest period.

A fourth reason for a rest is health related. Without question, the greatest health benefit is where a vacation helps in your stress reduction program. My father, who lived ninety six robust years, told me several times, a heart attack is nature's way of telling you to slow down. Someone with ailing health has few prospects. Sickness carries a message that only the wisest heed.

A fifth motivation for a vacation is a respite from our profession or occupation. This break could be the most important. We labor frantically to make ourselves more comfortable and end up with the byproduct of modern society, stress. Continuing stress causes a whole host of health problems. A recent survey reported forty percent of North Americans are suffering from chronic stress. Stress is what pushes some people decide to finally take a vacation. Early signs of stress are Mother Nature's way of telling us something is wrong and needs our attention. A break from work could be vital to our well being. Unfortunately this critical period is also the least respected. Weekly, we observe tourists trying to accomplish the most possible during their vacation. Enjoying all that the Island has to offer, they are partying, gambling, and frantically pursuing their hobbies. Their motto is "work hard, play hard."

Although the exercise we do on vacation can be a good stress reducer, moderate exercise needs to be done on a regular basis to contribute to overall health. Not working out the rest of the year and then overdoing it on vacation causes more stress. Many people need to return home to their "normal" lives to recuperate from their vacation. These people may have had a temporary break from their work and problems, but they certainly have not benefited physiologically from their vacation.

It has been estimated that managers spend at least 25 percent of their time resolving work-

place conflicts – causing lowered office performance. Some companies are resorting to making their employees to take vacation days or "time out" in order to improve their profit margin. In our clinic we see many of our patients take a mini vacation or "time out" when they come in for an acupuncture session.

Acupuncture, an ancient Chinese therapy that is becoming more widespread in the West uses various procedures, such as heat and pressure but mainly fine needles, to stimulate points on the body to relieve pain by rebalancing the flow of energy. The world health organization has listed many conditions treated safely and effectively by acupuncture including, allergies, hypertension, injuries, chronic pain, depression and fatigue.

Many of these are interrelated with stress. While many of our patients come in for their twenty minute session to relieve pain; our policy of turning cell phones off or on silent allows our clients to more fully relax. After their sessions many realize that the treatment has gone beyond pain reduction and they feel a balance and harmony in their body, mind and spirit.

My father once told me that he had never heard anyone state in their closing years that they wished that they had worked harder. In our pursuit to make ourselves more comfortable, our daily affairs have a way of obscuring more important issues. Issues we ignore until we are forced to retire or Mother Nature gives us her message in sickness.

Get the point; a diversion from daily responsibilities can rejuvenate our lives. Either this weekend at home, or this summer spent in an exotic place like Aruba, take time to reflect on health. Schedule a spa treatment between water sports and rounds of golf. Have some tropical fruit on the breakfast buffet instead of coffee and toast, put away the laptop and enjoy the view. Come in for an acupuncture "time out." If you're ready for a complete makeover, whether you're visiting or live in the land of endless vacationers, at our natural healing center, we do full health evaluations, based on science, but with a stress free, barefoot, Island flavor. Call us for a mini or maxi vacation that can have effects that last long after the break. □

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US stocks rise as retailers and smaller companies climb

By MARLEY JAY
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — After a weak start, U.S. indexes are higher Tuesday as retailers and smaller companies climb and investors applaud strong second-quarter results from health care products giant Johnson & Johnson and financial services company Charles Schwab. Netflix is plunging after the streaming video company gained fewer subscribers than Wall Street had hoped in its latest quarter and also projected weak results over the next three months.

KEEPING SCORE: The S&P 500 index rose 5 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,803 as of 11:20 a.m. Eastern time after it dropped 9 points at the start of trading. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 15 points, or 0.1 percent, to 25,079. The Nasdaq composite picked up 12 points, or 0.2 percent, to 7,818. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks rose 7 points, or 0.5 percent, to 1,686.

ARE YOU STILL WATCHING? Netflix's weak subscriber totals have the stock on track for its biggest loss in two years. It's down 8.1 percent to \$367.51. The company has regularly beaten its own subscriber forecasts but failed to do so in the second quarter and its third-quarter estimate was



In this Dec. 21, 2016, file photo, the New York Stock Exchange is shown.

lower than analysts expected. Even with Tuesday's loss, the stock is up more than 90 percent this year.

BAND-AID: Johnson & Johnson's second-quarter profit grew thanks to better results from its prescription drug business, and it posted higher sales than analysts expected. The stock gained 4 percent to \$129.73, which helped household goods companies fare better than the rest of the market.

Charles Schwab climbed 3.8 percent to \$53.02 after it surpassed Wall Street forecasts in the latest quarter.

SHOPPING, NOT DROP-PING: Retailers contributed to the market's recovery as PVH, the parent company of Tommy Hilfiger and other brands, gained 2.2 percent to \$151.29 and Ralph Lauren rose 2.2 percent to \$132.78. Discount store operator Dollar tree added 0.9 percent to \$86.85 and Target gained 0.7 percent to \$77.73.

Amazon rose as it said sales in the first hours of its annual Prime Day promotion improved compared to last year in spite of technical problems. The company said it's resolving those issues. The stock rose 0.9 per-

cent to \$1,838.40.

INSURER GETS QUEASY: UnitedHealth, the largest U.S. health insurance company, once again beat expectations in the latest quarter and raised its annual profit forecast. But the company's spending on medical costs was higher than analysts expected, and the stock lost 3.4 percent to \$248.13.

Investors worried that other health insurers would have similar problems. Humana slid 2.1 percent to \$309.04 and Anthem gave up 1.3 percent to \$245.17.

Advertising companies also traded lower after Om-

nicom said its business in North America decreased in the second quarter and its U.K. business also shrank. The advertising conglomerate lost 8 percent to \$71.83 and Interpublic Group shed 4.8 percent to \$22.56.

FED COMMENT: Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell is delivering a positive view of the economy and says he expects the Fed to keep gradually raising interest rates. Powell is testifying before Congress on Tuesday and investors will look for clues about the Fed's approach toward raising interest rates. In a statement released before his testimony began, Powell said the Fed believes the economy will stay strong and inflation will remain at around 2 percent for the next few years.

EU-JAPAN DEAL: The European Union and Japan signed a broad trade deal Tuesday that will eliminate nearly all tariffs. Their agreement covers a third of the global economy and more than 600 million people. Prices of European wine and pork will fall for Japanese consumers. Japanese machinery parts, tea and fish will get cheaper for Europe. The deal has been in the works for years and contrasts with the more protectionist approach of U.S. President Donald Trump. □

Lawmakers warn Trump tariffs threaten local newspapers

By KEVIN FREKING
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

About a dozen members of Congress warned Tuesday that newspapers in their

home states are in danger of cutting coverage, laying off workers or going out of business if the United States maintains recently imposed tariffs on Canadian newsprint.

The Trump administration ordered the tariffs in response to a complaint from a paper producer in Washington state. It argues that Canadian competitors take advantage of government subsidies to sell their product at unfairly low prices. About a dozen lawmakers spoke out against making the tariffs permanent during a United States International Trade Commission

hearing. The commission is reviewing whether U.S. producers of certain ground-wood paper products, including newsprint, have been materially injured be-

cause of the imports from Canada. The commission's findings play a critical role in whether the Department of Commerce makes the tariffs permanent. □



In this April 11, 2018, photo, production workers stack newspapers onto a cart at the Janesville Gazette Printing & Distribution plant in Janesville, Wis.

Associated Press



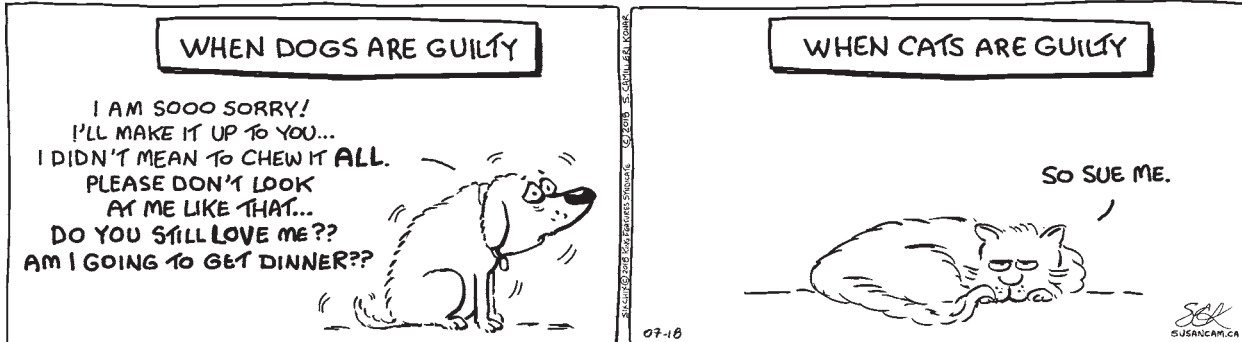

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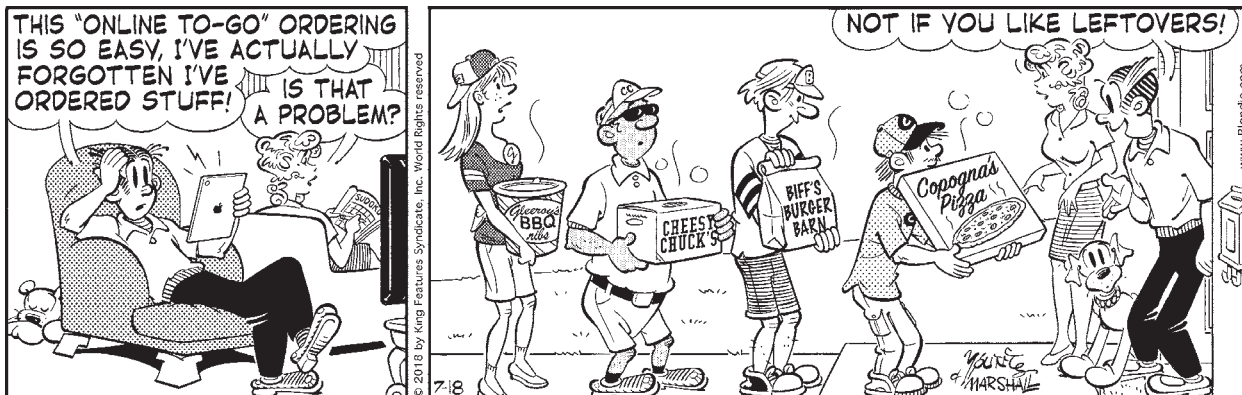
Mutts



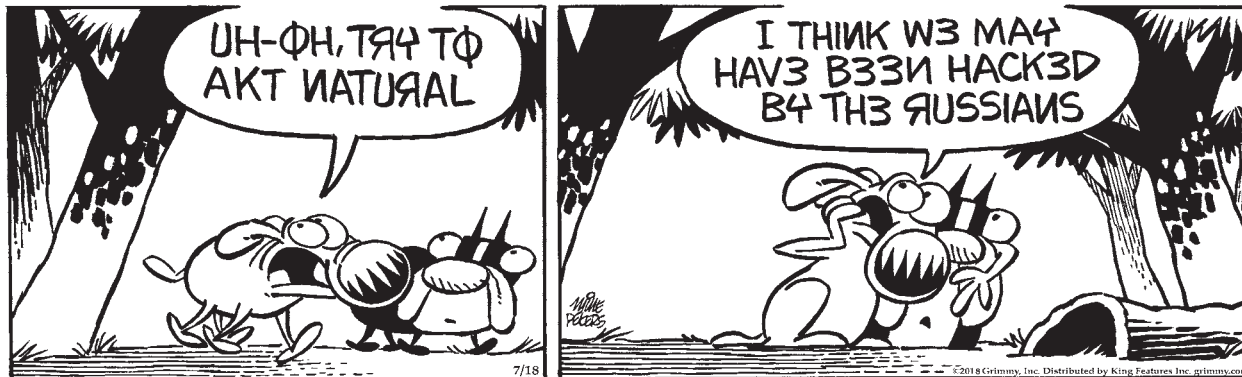
6 Chix



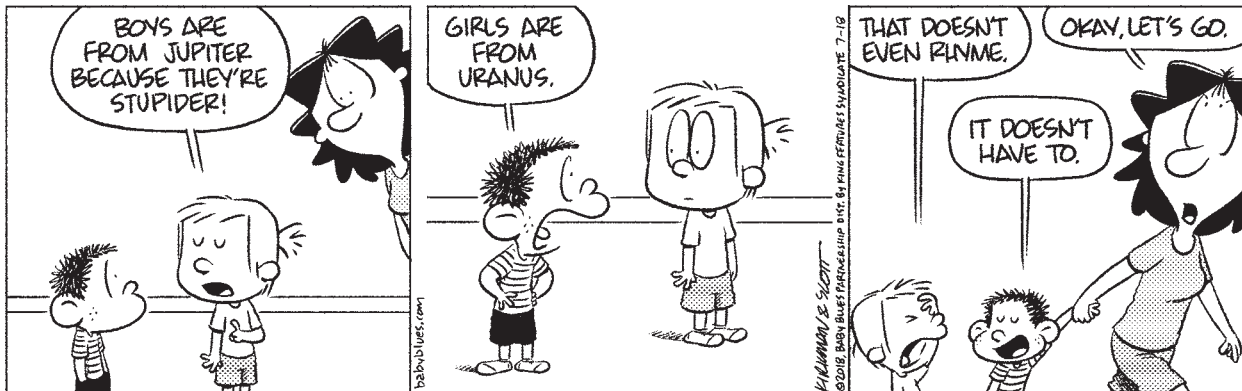
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Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

					9	5	2	1
	3	5		1			9	
	6		2			8		
		3			7			
	7				1			
6			9	2		4		
7		6			4		8	9
9	1					6	4	
3						1		

Difficulty Level ★★★

7/18

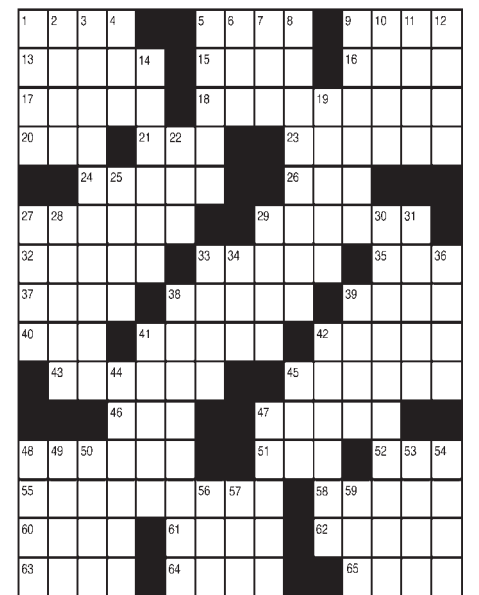
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

4	6	3	1	2	9	5	8	7
8	9	5	3	7	6	1	4	2
2	1	7	4	8	5	6	3	9
6	2	8	9	5	7	3	1	4
9	3	4	2	1	8	7	6	5
5	7	1	6	4	3	9	2	8
1	8	9	7	3	2	4	5	6
3	5	6	8	9	4	2	7	1
7	4	2	5	6	1	8	9	3

ACROSS

- 1 Actor Johnny
- 5 In addition
- 9 Loafer or Oxford
- 13 Worked as a crewman
- 15 Shallow's opposite
- 16 Wee
- 17 Gem
- 18 Something spoken
- 20 Mountain road
- 21 Coolidge, to friends
- 23 ___ on; told the misdeeds of
- 24 Vote into office
- 26 Part of a royal flush
- 27 Take back one's words
- 29 Bad smell
- 32 Burst forth
- 33 More devious
- 35 Feminine pronoun
- 37 Martial ___; judo, karate, etc.
- 38 Use one's money
- 39 Comic Carvey
- 40 Baseball's Durocher
- 41 Pile up
- 42 Take a ___ to; like
- 43 Fire-breather
- 45 Playground equipment
- 46 Brooks or Ott
- 47 Not tight enough
- 48 Be present at
- 51 "Cat ___ Hot Tin Roof"
- 52 Dieter's concern: abbr.
- 55 Abundant; plentiful
- 58 Courtroom event
- 60 Actor Jack ___
- 61 Trick
- 62 Napped leather
- 63 Forest animals
- 64 Celebrity
- 65 Expanded



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/18/18

- 2 Sups
- 3 District attorney
- 4 Pigsty
- 5 Grown-up
- 6 Allow
- 7 "Ready, __, go!"
- 8 Performed surgery
- 9 NYC's ___ Island
- 10 Suggestion
- 11 "___ upon a time..."
- 12 Watched
- 14 Modestly clothed
- 19 Earnhardt or Petty
- 22 Read the riot ___ to; berate
- 25 Circuits around the track
- 27 Genuine
- 28 Blundered
- 29 Cursing & coveting
- 30 Dining room light, often
- 31 Thus
- 33 Bridge
- 34 "___ Miserables"
- 36 Charles & Romano

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

AMI	SEALS	MOST
NABS	HANOI	EACH
TREE	OUTON	THAI
EXCLUDING	HUNS	
ROTE	UFO	
CARESS	SALADBAR	
ELATE	BEGAN	OWE
AIRS	COWER	CRAB
SEE	CURED	HAIKU
ENROLLED	SUNSET	
PUP	GETA	
ROSE	AGGRESSOR	
SHIN	BLOOM	TUES
VILE	LEAVE	ASAP
POOR	ENDED	TRAP

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7/18/18

- 38 Burns without flame
- 39 Speaker's platform
- 41 Representative
- 42 Parade entries
- 44 Reforms oneself
- 45 Family member
- 47 Ne'er-do-well
- 48 Up to the task
- 49 Wrench or pliers
- 50 Ankara native
- 53 Ordered
- 54 Murdered
- 56 Pitcher's delight
- 57 3rd most-populous nation: abbr.
- 59 Toupee; wig

DOWN

- 1 Prescription label info

Another endangered black rhino dies after Kenya transfer

Associated Press
NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Kenyan authorities say a ninth critically endangered black rhino has died after being moved from the capital to a new wildlife park.

A statement Tuesday from the ministry of tourism and wildlife notes the latest death. The others were announced on Friday. The ministry says preliminary investigations point to salt poisoning as the rhinos tried to adapt to saltier water in their new home.

Minister Najib Balala says just two of the 11 rhinos transported last month are still alive.

The ministry has suspended the ongoing move of rhinos and said the surviving ones in the new park are being closely monitored.

Transporting wildlife is a conservation strategy used to help build up animal populations. Kenya says it transported 149 rhinos between 2005 and 2017 with just eight deaths. □

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Jupiter's moon count reaches 79, including tiny 'oddball'

By EMILIANO RODRIGUEZ
MEGA

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Astronomers are still finding moons at Jupiter, 400 years after Galileo used his spyglass to spot the first ones.

The latest discovery of a dozen small moons brings the total to 79, the most of any planet in our solar system.

Scientists were looking for objects on the fringes of the solar system last year when they pointed their telescopes close to Jupiter's backyard, according to Scott Sheppard of the Carnegie Institute for Science in Washington. They saw a new group of objects moving around the giant gas planet but didn't know whether they were moons or asteroids passing near Jupiter.

"There was no eureka moment," said Sheppard, who led the team of astrono-



This April 3, 2017 image made available by NASA shows the planet Jupiter.

mers. "It took a year to figure out what these objects were."

They all turned out to be moons of Jupiter. The confirmation of 10 was an-

Associated Press
nounced Tuesday. Two were confirmed earlier.

The moons had not been spotted before because they are tiny. They are about one to two kilome-

ters (miles) across, said astronomer Gareth Williams of the International Astronomical Union's Minor Planet Center.

And he thinks Jupiter might have even more moons just as small waiting to be found.

"We just haven't observed them enough," said Williams, who helped confirm the moons' orbits.

The team is calling one of the new moons an 'oddball' because of its unusual orbit. Sheppard's girlfriend came up with a name for it: Valetudo, the great-granddaughter of the Roman god Jupiter.

Valetudo is in Jupiter's distant, outer swarm of moons that circles in the opposite direction of the planet's rotation. Yet it's orbiting in the same direction as the planet, against the swarm's traffic.

"This moon is going down the highway the wrong

way," Sheppard said.

Scientists believe moons like Valetudo and its siblings appeared soon after Jupiter formed. The planet must have acted like a vacuum, sucking up all the material that was around it. Some of that debris was captured as moons.

"What astonishes me about these moons is that they're the remnants of what the planet formed from," he said. Telescopes in Chile, Hawaii and Arizona were used for the latest discovery and confirmation.

Galileo detected Jupiter's four largest moons, Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto in 1610. The latest count of 79 known planets includes eight that have not been seen for several years. Saturn is next with 61, followed by Uranus with 27 and Neptune with 14. Mars has two, Earth has one and Mercury and Venus have none. □

Lab-grown meat could be in restaurants in 3 years

BERLIN (AP) — A Dutch company that presented the world's first lab-grown beef burger five years ago said Tuesday it has received funding to pursue its plans to make and sell artificially grown meat to restaurants from 2021.

Mosa Meat said it raised 7.5 million euros (\$8.8 million), mainly from M Ventures and Bell Food Group.

M Ventures is an investment vehicle for German pharmaceuticals company Merck KGaA. Bell Food is a European meat processing company based in Switzerland. Smaller investors include Glass Wall Syndicate, which supports several companies looking into cultured meat or meat substitute products aimed at consumers concerned

about the environmental and ethical impact of raising and slaughtering animals.

Maastricht-based Mosa Meat, which has in the past also received 1 million euros from Google co-founder Sergey Brin, said it hopes to sell its first products — most likely ground beef for burgers — in 2021. The aim is to achieve industrial-scale

production 2-3 years later, with a typical hamburger patty costing about \$1.

Environmentalists have warned that the world's growing appetite for meat, particularly in emerging economies such as China, isn't sustainable because beef, pork and poultry require far greater resources than plant-based proteins. Cows in particular also produce large amounts of greenhouse gas that contribute to global warming. The big challenge is making meat that looks, feels and tastes like the real thing. Mosa Meat uses a small sample of cells taken

from a live animal.

Those cells are fed with nutrients so that they grow into strands of muscle tissue. The company claims it could make up to 80,000 quarter pounders from a single sample. With a number of startups and established players hoping to make cultured meat on a big scale in the coming years, a battle has broken out over the terms used to describe such products. Some advocates have claimed the term "clean meat" while opponents in the traditional farm sector suggest "synthetic meat" is more appropriate. □



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Pop TV: Dr. Pimple Popper now has her own reality TV show

By ALICIA RANCILIO

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The on-line video star named Dr. Pimple Popper, who films herself squeezing pus from acne, is a different kind of voyeur when she's off the clock.

Dr. Sandra Lee likes to search for mukbangs, a Korean term for people who film themselves eating large amounts of food while interacting with the camera.

"I'm just shocked at how much food that they're eating," laughed Lee in a recent interview. "I'm like, 'Look at them — they're stuffing their face with all those noodles.'"

Her tastes also swing to, of all things, primitive technology videos. She watches a man who makes a hut out of clay. "He builds clay tile and builds a kiln to fire the clay," she said. "Those are real YouTubers who are working so hard for their videos. Mine are just videos for people who walk into my office." She may think her videos are easy gets, but she's got an audience. The Dr. Pimple Popper You-



This photo provided by Discovery Communication shows Dr. Sandra Lee during a procedure on the new show on TLC called "Dr. Pimple Popper."

Tube channel has nearly 4 million subscribers and more than 2.5 billion views. Her videos are so popular, showbiz naturally wanted a piece of the action. Lee now has her own show, also called "Dr. Pimple Popper," airing Wednesday nights at 10 p.m. EDT on TLC.

The series isn't just pops, it introduces viewers to the patients first. People with

medical issues like large cysts that affect their self-esteem and their lives.

"These are big cases," said Lee. "We have people who have real things that are different, that stand out and are shocking and we're making them look normal. It's a feel good thing."

And if you're squeamish, Lee advises, "just look away for a little bit."

AP: Why do you think people are so drawn to your videos?

Lee: I think there's a sense of clearance that you're getting rid of something. It relaxes people. A lot of people watch them as bedtime stories, to decrease their anxiety. If you want things to be clean, it really makes you feel like things are being put back

into place. I also think some people get drawn in because it's fascinating to them.

AP: Is it possible to actually get an appointment with you now that you're so known?

Lee: People come to my office now from Africa, from Asia, from London, from Canada because they've watched my videos and they want me to be the one to see them. It's very humbling but it's very strange. I don't want them to come that far. I'm extremely flattered but there are thousands of dermatologists between me and them.

AP: Do you get recognized in public?

Lee: It's interesting. I probably get recognized more for my voice because in my videos you hear my voice more than you see my face. ... I was on a plane in Mexico and this girl tapped me on the shoulder and said, "Are you Dr. Pimple Popper?" She's like, "I heard your voice and I just looked around and knew that was your voice." That happens all the time. □

Associated Press

Author John Irving wins literary peace award

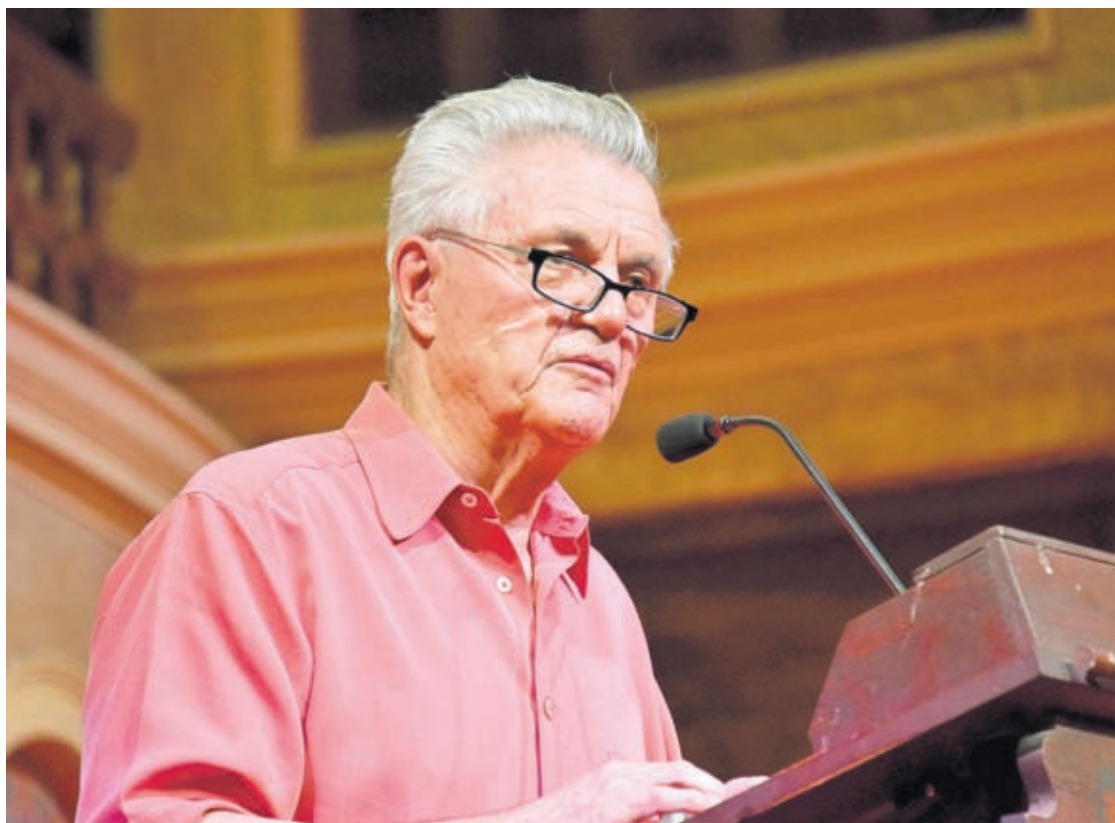
By DAN SEWELL

Associated Press

CINCINNATI (AP) — The author of novels such as "The World According to Garp" and "The Cider House Rules" that examine the complexities of sexual differences and other social issues is this year's winner of a lifetime achievement award celebrating literature's power to foster peace, social justice and global understanding, organizers said Tuesday.

Dayton Literary Peace Prize officials chose John Irving, whose first novel, "Setting Free the Bears," was published 50 years ago when he was 26, for the Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award. It's named for the late U.S. diplomat who brokered the 1995 Bosnia peace accords reached in Ohio.

Sharon Rab, founder and chairwoman of the peace



In this June 7, 2016 file photo, John Irving speaks at a book discussion for his novel "Avenue of Mysteries" at Coral Gables Congregational Church in Miami.

Associated Press

prize foundation, said Irving's books often show "the tragedy of a lack of

empathy and sympathy for our fellow humans ... through books — especially Irving's books — readers learn to understand and identify with people different from themselves."

Irving's all-time best-selling novel, "A Prayer for Owen Meany," examines faith, fate and social justice through the intertwined lives of two boyhood friends. Often using humor to illuminate deep topics, Irving's works have included bisexual, homosexual and transgender people. The National Book Award-winning "The World According to Garp" was made into a movie starring the late Robin Williams, and Irving won an Oscar for Best Adapted Screenplay for the movie version of "The Cider House Rules," which deals with issues including abortion. □

Stevie Nicks and LeAnn Rimes share heartbreak in new duet

By PABLO ARAUZ PENA

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Stevie Nicks cried on her living room floor when she first saw LeAnn Rimes perform "Borrowed" on her TV in 2013.

The song, about an intimate, yet fleeting romance between Rimes and her lover, came out on Rimes' "Spitfire" album when Nicks became enamored with it. The Fleetwood Mac singer knew then that she wanted to sing it with Rimes someday.

"It was very easy for me to try to be in that same sad, deeply tragic, passionate place where she was when she wrote that song because I had been there. I had lived there for a long time," Nicks said in an interview with The Associated Press from Mexico, where she was on vacation.

Nicks heard from mutual friend and producer Darrell Brown, who co-wrote "Borrowed," that Rimes was planning to touch up some of her hits for her "Re-Imagined" EP, and she jumped at the chance to record a duet version with Rimes.



Stevie Nicks attends the premiere of the "The Book of Henry" in Culver City, Calif., on June 14, 2017 and LeAnn Rimes attends 82nd Annual Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in New York on Dec. 3, 2014.

"Being able to have another artist really kind of get you on so many levels in that authenticity and from that space is really magical," said Rimes.

The new version, released last month, balances Nicks' soft croon to Rimes' striking vocals. Like in the previous

version, a cool and fading steel guitar compliments the rhythmic melody and calming percussion.

Even though Nicks has been singing and recording long before Rimes was on the scene, she said working with her is like going to singing college.

"She doesn't brush over anything," said 70-year-old Nicks. "You have to sing every single word with her; otherwise it won't be a good duet because she would leave you in the dust."

Rimes, 35, became a star as a teen and launched

hits such as "Blue," "How Do I Live" and "Can't Fight the Moonlight." She won the best new artist Grammy at age 14.

Both singers come from different musical backgrounds. Nicks is a rock 'n' roll magnate from Phoenix and Rimes has country roots in Texas, but their voices reflect on a shared passion where heartbreak isn't bound by place, time or genre.

Rimes said she came up with the idea for the song during an emotionally troubling moment on an airplane when she noticed someone reading a tabloid magazine with her on the cover. She started to cry when the stranger's husband came to her comfort. "I honestly feel like that guy was an angel," she said. "Some things came over me at that moment and I just remember thinking that title ("Borrowed") to myself." The first line of the song came to Rimes: "I know you're not mine. Only borrowed." From there, she took it to the studio where she fleshed out the rest of the tune. □

Associated Press

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JULY 12 - 18

<p>NEW THIS WEEK!</p>	<p>ADAM SANDLER SELENA GOMEZ</p> <p>HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 3</p> <p>MON-THURS 4:30 6:40 8:50 FRIDAY 4:30 6:40 8:50 11:00 SATURDAY 2:20 4:30 6:40 8:50 11:00 SUN & HOL 2:20 4:30 6:40 8:50</p>
	<p>DWAYNE JOHNSON NEVE CAMPBELL</p> <p>SKYSCRAPER</p> <p>CXC PREMIUM LARGE FORMAT AUDITORIUM 2D MON-THURS 4:35 6:55 9:15 FRIDAY 4:35 6:55 9:15 11:35 SATURDAY 2:15 4:35 6:55 9:15 11:35 SUN & HOL 2:15 4:35 6:55 9:15</p> <p>MON-THURS & SUN 3:50 6:10 8:30 FRIDAY-SATURDAY 3:50 6:10 8:30 10:50</p>
<p>SANDRA BULLOCK CATE BLANCHETT</p> <p>OCEAN'S 8</p> <p>WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-FRI 4:30 6:55 SAT & SUN 2:05 4:30 6:55</p>	<p>PAUL RUDD EVANGELINE LILLY</p> <p>ANTHONY MUSE</p> <p>WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-FRIDAY 4:15 6:50 9:25 SAT & SUN 1:45 4:15 6:50 9:25</p>
<p>MARISA TOMEI Y'LAN NOEL</p> <p>PURGE</p> <p>MON-THURS 4:55 7:15 9:35 FRIDAY 4:55 7:15 9:35 11:55 SATURDAY 2:35 4:55 7:15 9:35 11:55 SUN & HOL 2:35 4:55 7:15 9:35</p>	
<p>CHRIS PRATT JEFF GOLDBLUM</p> <p>JURASSIC WORLD</p> <p>WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES MON-SUN 3:45 6:25 9:10</p>	<p>SAMUEL L. JACKSON CRAIG T. NELSON</p> <p>INCREDIBLES 2</p> <p>MON-THURS 5:50 8:30 FRIDAY 5:50 8:30 11:10 SATURDAY 3:10 5:50 8:30 11:10 SUNDAY 3:10 5:50 8:30</p>
	<p>SYLVESTER STALLONE DAVE BAUTISTA</p> <p>ESCAPE</p> <p>MON-THURS & SUN 9:20 FRI & SAT 9:20 11:30</p>

STARTING JULY 19: THE EQUALIZER 2, MAMMA MIA! HERE WE GO AGAIN

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Hulk Hogan reinstated into wrestling Hall of Fame



In this Oct. 15, 2012, file photo, reality TV star and former pro wrestler Hulk Hogan, whose real name is Terry Bollea, looks on as his attorney speaks in Tampa, Fla.

Associated Press

By TAMARA LUSH

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — World Wrestling Entertainment Inc. has reinstated Hulk Hogan to its Hall of

Fame, three years after he was found to have used racial slurs in a conversation caught on a sex tape. The Connecticut-based company made the an-

nouncement in a statement Sunday.

"This second chance follows Hogan's numerous public apologies and volunteering to work with young people, where he is helping them learn from his mistake," the organization wrote.

Hogan told his 2.2 million followers on Twitter: "I've been praying for this day and I finally feel like I made it back home. Only Love 4 the #WWEUNIVERSE brother," he wrote. The 64-year-old Hogan, whose real name is Terry Bollea, apologized in 2015 for using "offensive language" in a conversation many years before that. On the recording, he was caught talking about his daughter sleeping with a black man and used the "N" word. □

Bask in the effervescent insanity of 'Mamma Mia 2'

By LINDSEY BAHR
Associated Press

"Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again" is a wholly ridiculous movie that I thoroughly enjoyed. It's the kind of movie that feels and sounds like a summer vacation should: Fizzy, lively, low-stakes and soundtracked by ABBA.

This is a world where things generally just work out, where folks are kind and willing to help, where everyone has perfect beach hair, where characters just (asterisk)know(asterisk) they're pregnant after one bout of morning sickness, and where old flings and family members are not only welcome to suddenly sail back into lives they've abandoned but greeted with joy and a song. Who's got time for bitterness and jealousy in these Greek isles?

The dialogue may be ridiculous, the plot may be questionable, and the musical numbers may be staged and stitched together like a manic fever dream (including a uniquely crazy rendition of "Waterloo" with Lily James and Hugh Skinner prancing around a French restaurant). But "Mamma Mia 2" wears its happy heart so earnestly on its fringed suede sleeve that it almost doesn't matter. Like an all-inclusive resort, it



This image released by Universal Pictures shows, Julie Walters, Pierce Brosnan, Amana Seyfried and Christine Baranski in "Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again."

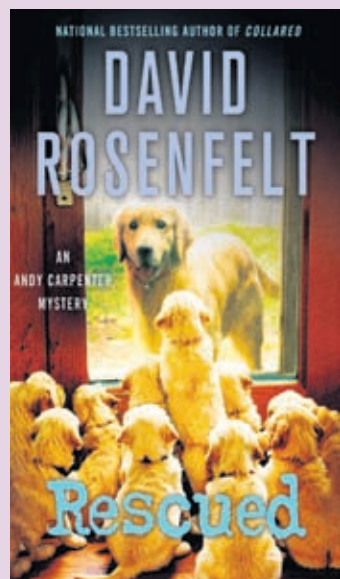
might be a little cheesy and there is surely some cooler and more authentic option out there with less green screen and more character development, but easy can be its own kind of fun. And this all-inclusive resort has Cher. And Andy Garcia. And Colin Firth playing Leonardo DiCaprio to Stellan Skarsgard's Kate Winslet at the bow of a boat packed to the gills with a mass of people singing "Dancing Queen." And minimal singing from Pierce Brosnan. And a final show-

stopper that's so fun, you might be disappointed there isn't an encore. But the real reason this bonkers movie works so well is the incandescent Lily James. She plays a younger Donna (who 40 years later is played by Meryl Streep), during a very eventful summer in 1979 where she both finds her calling and meets (and sleeps with) the three men who all could very possibly be the father of her daughter, Sophie (Amanda Seyfried). It should be said that two of the three suitors

are uncomfortably overeager to get Donna into bed as soon as they meet her. The flashback portions are told in tandem with what's happening in the present day, where Sophie is preparing for the grand opening of the hotel Donna. Seyfried is good, if underserved, and her story picks up considerably when Tanya (Christine Baranski) and Rosie (Julie Walters) arrive, but it's the '79 portion that you want to keep going back to (at least until Cher shows up for the last

10 minutes). James, who is always strong no matter how big her role (from "Cinderella" to "The Darkest Hour"), gets a real star turn here. She also has a sweetly appealing voice that's (thankfully) more 90s Disney than modern folk singer. And with some more talented singers in her male counterparts, young Bill (Josh Dylan), Harry (Hugh Skinner) and Sam (Jeremy Irvine), you find yourself actually looking forward to their songs instead of bracing for them. Jessica Keenan Wynn and Alexa Davies also shine as young Tanya and Rosie, although I would like a word with whoever decided that they would have the exact same haircuts 40 years earlier. English screenwriter and director Ol Parker took over directorial duties and slowed the pace considerably from Phyllida Lloyd's impossibly energetic "Mamma Mia!" where there was rarely a scene where someone was running, skipping or bounding with joy. In "Here We Go Again," which almost sounds like a threat, or at least bemused resignation, there is actually downtime and breathing room, which can drag at times. This is a movie that very much requires you to be in the "right mood." □

'Rescued' by David Rosenfelt is heartwarming mystery



This cover image released by Minotaur shows "Rescued," by David Rosenfelt.
Associated Press

By WAKA TSUNODA
Associated Press

"Rescued: an Andy Carpenter Mystery" (Minotaur), by David Rosenfelt Defense attorney Andy Carpenter is known to win seemingly unwinnable cases. In "Rescued," the 17th of David Rosenfelt's novels featuring Carpenter, the maverick legal eagle's not sure if he can pull off his usual miracle because the evidence against his client is overwhelming.

Private investigator David Kramer is accused in the death of Kenny Zimmer, who was transporting 61

dogs from the deep South to the Northeast, where they could be adopted. Kramer says he shot Zimmer at a rest stop in New Jersey, but insists that it was in self-defense. Zimmer, he says, asked to meet him in the tractor-trailer carrying the dogs, but when he showed up, Zimmer came at him with a large knife. No knife was found at the crime scene. Carpenter theorizes that a third person hiding in the truck removed the knife, but video footage recorded no such person. Worse, Kramer had beaten up Zimmer once before.

Defending the man is emotionally difficult for Carpenter. He must overcome his "childish jealousy" of Kramer, his beloved wife's ex-boyfriend. Still, Carpenter does his best to defend Kramer. While taking care of the dogs from the truck at a dog rescue foundation he operates with friends, he tries to find answers to two questions: What happened to the knife? Why are no dog rescue centers in the Northeast expecting the arrival of these dogs? In his search for the truth, Carpenter is helped by familiar characters such as

Marcus the bodyguard, "the scariest person on the planet," and Hike the associate lawyer, "the most downbeat person in the history of the world." In the end, a minor incident involving a dog enables Carpenter not only to win an acquittal for Kramer, but also to uncover a conspiracy that could have resulted in a national disaster. Rosenfelt has written mysteries with different protagonists, but the humorous Carpenter series makes him one of the most unforgettable authors in the genre. □

Two communities show Nubians' past, a version of the future

By HAMZA HENDAWI
NARIMAN EL-MOFTY
Associated Press
WADI KARKAR, Egypt (AP)

— With a mix of nostalgia and sorrow, Egypt's Nubians look back at their lives in ancestral lands in southern Egypt as a peaceful era tied intimately to the Nile River.

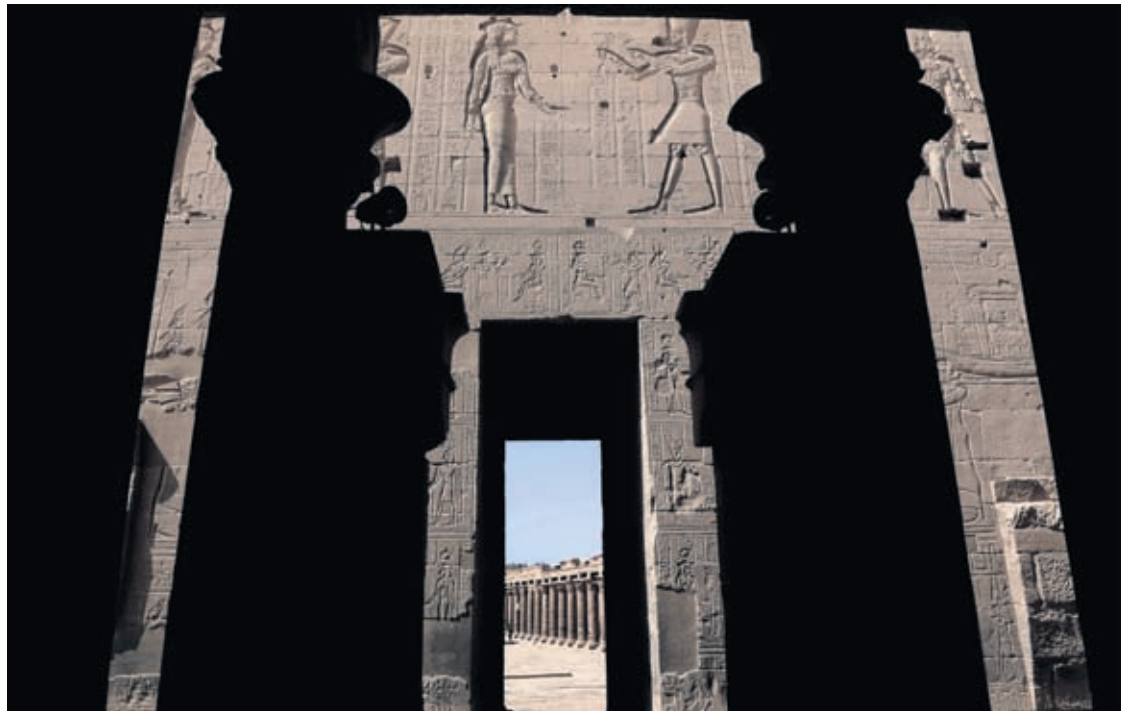
Since their eviction in the 1960s to make way for the giant lake behind the Aswan High Dam, they have lived in desolate towns further north, often on the edge of the desert. Many in the community yearn to return to lands along the banks of Lake Nasser.

Two communities show the contrasts of the Nubians' fate — one pointing back to the Nubians' past, the other showing the state's fumbling attempts to find a substitute to quiet calls for a return to the old country.

HEISA ISLAND

The village of Heisa, home to around 2,000 people, offers a glimpse into what life was like for Nubians in their homeland before the upheavals of the last century. It is perched on an island in the Aswan reservoir, which was created by the building of a small dam in 1902. While other villages surrounding it were evacuated from the area, Heisa's people stayed, moving to higher ground. Most of their farmland was lost under water. Decades later, the Aswan High Dam was built upstream, sandwiching Heisa in between.

The air is clean and crisp on the island. The houses, built on rocky hills, are spa-



This May 9, 2018, photo shows the temple complex of Philae in Aswan, Egypt.

Associated Press

cious and painted in bright colors, some with domes mirroring the traditional Nubian architecture.

In some places, the Nile stretches majestically for more than a mile into the distance to the surrounding desert shores. Children are out in the river on small boats in the afternoons as young men swim to cool off. Some of the villagers still practice old traditions like baptizing newborns in the Nile, grooms washing in its waters before their wedding or floating dishes of food for the river's mythical guardians.

Most of Heisa's men are government employees, usually going to work in Aswan in their boats, and then ferrying tourists around the river for extra cash. Dozens of traditional sailboats called feluccas are anchored at small docks around the island. Villag-

ers grow fruit trees, mostly keeping the crop to eat themselves.

Residents belong to some half dozen clans under a single tribe. It's like one big family.

There is only one doctor at the island's clinic. He comes from Mansoura in the Nile Delta, some 1,000 kilometers (625 miles) to the north. When he's on vacation, the island's sick have to seek treatment in Aswan. Water supply is rationed. Electricity was not introduced to the island until the 1980s. There is a primary school but for middle and high school, the children travel to nearby larger villages on the mainland.

On a recent evening, several villagers drank tea and chatted on a mustabah, a concrete block built against a house's outer wall and used as a bench where men and women separately meet to socialize.

"The centerpiece of a typical Nubian home is the mustabah," said Basheer Murakeb Mohammed, a 58-year-old government employee, as he sipped his glass of sweet tea with milk, a fixture for Nubians' sunset sittings.

"We don't feel isolated. We are here and we are happy to be here," he said.

WADI KARKAR:

Wadi Karkar, a complex built by the military in the

desert west of Lake Nasser, has been touted by the government as providing a "Return" for Nubians.

First opened in 2008, the colony has about 2,000 homes, and more are planned. There's a police station, post office and greenhouses that employ a few dozen people. With well-ordered symmetrical streets, it looks almost exactly like the innumerable other planned communities that have been built in the deserts around Cairo and elsewhere — except the houses are built in a modern concrete-brick-and-stone imitation of the traditional mud-brick Nubian style.

Authorities boast that it will eventually number some 30,000 people. Some Nubians qualify to receive homes there for free as compensation for past losses.

But so far, Wadi Karkar has fallen flat.

Fewer than 500 of the homes are occupied, and the streets in many parts feel deserted. People have been reluctant to move in because of lack of jobs or services. The mobile signal is sketchy. Recently, a bus service between the colony and Aswan, some 25 kilometers (15 miles) away, was suspended because it wasn't economically feasible, according to residents. "The problem here is development," said Mohammed Haroun. The 64-year-old moved here with his wife in 2014. He was 9 when his family was moved from their village of Daboud in 1963 and relocated to Kom Ombo, before later moving to Aswan.

Haroun said he's happy with Wadi Karkar. It's a pleasant place to retire after 40 years working at a state-run chemical factory, the air is clean, it's quiet, the electricity and water work, he explains. He grows peppers, basil and parsley in his little home garden and hangs out with other men his age after the sunset prayers.

"But there is no river here!" he said with a laugh. The shores of Lake Nasser are an 8-kilometer (5-mile) drive away. He remembered his childhood playing in the Nile and rituals like baptizing children in the river.

His six children and 10 grandchildren have not followed him to Wadi Karkar. They only visit.

"The government said this is Return, but it is not Return," he said. □



This May 7, 2018, photo shows the high dam in Aswan, Egypt.
Associated Press



In this Friday, Sept. 29, 2017, photo, Nubian activist Waleed Toka poses for a photograph in Cairo, Egypt.

Associated Press